

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Odimba, Joel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[March, John \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[Petters, Ursula \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 10/30/2017 7:26:42 PM

Subject: FW: Constituent Issue

Greetings...

See below. I don't think we can refuse this young woman's desire to meet with Rep Caldier.

I am aware of some of the dynamics of this case and the youth involved (thank you again Ursula) and am vividly aware that we cannot share the flip side of this coin with the Rep.

The rep says she doesn't want to engage in the 'case'....that may not be easy not to do....

Regardless, eager for your thoughts. I am thinking the SW can set up the meet but not be involved, likewise with the current caregiver (figure out how to get her to and fro but not participate). Thoughts? Concerns (other than the obvious). Thanks, C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

From: Caldier, Rep. Michelle [mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov]

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment RCW 70.02.020, and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home RCW 70.02.020. I have no stability and you would think that someone with RCW 70.02.020 would at least get some stability and routine.*

**RCW 13.50.100** *. All I know is that I cannot go back to my mother, that is the last thing I want and I will go to extreme measures to avoid that.*

*I can meet anytime after 2:30 in the afternoon. I'll give you my social workers number and maybe you guys can work something out.*

*Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848*

*Thank you,*

I don't want to cause any issues in this case, but I would like to meet with her if possible. Please let me know if it would be inappropriate to contact her social worker to arrange a meeting.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
(360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

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**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

This case has been thoroughly reviewed. The child's perspective is always heavily considered; there are also additional factors that must be taken into account. Due to confidentiality laws, without a signed release of information, I am unable to share any case details with you.

Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, **if** there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002449

## Transforming Lives

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in [RCW 13.50.100] County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, [RCW 13.50.100] High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as [RCW 70.02.020] about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is [RCW 70.02.020] she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.*

*Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.*

*One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.*

*My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the [RCW 13.50.100]. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.*

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*She didn't even protect me when my brother was [RCW 13.50.100] me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He [RCW 13.50.100] me for three years and she did nothing to stop it.*

*This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.*

*Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on end. I had [RCW 70.02.020] around her and I was [RCW 70.02.020]. [RCW 70.02.020]*

*[Redacted] I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.*

*I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become [RCW 70.02.020] I have [RCW 70.02.020], and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.*

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*They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.*

*I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.*

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

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From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Odimba, Joel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[March, John \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[Petters, Ursula \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 10/30/2017 8:02:56 PM

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Thank you, Joel. I will let Rep. Caldier know to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to make necessary arrangements. Thank you in advance for letting him know to expect the contact and what his role will be. I will cc you on my response. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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From: Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 12:53 PM

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>; March, John (DSHS/CA)

<[MARCHJR@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:MARCHJR@dshs.wa.gov)>; Petters, Ursula (DSHS/CA) <[PETTEUR@DSHS.WA.GOV](mailto:PETTEUR@DSHS.WA.GOV)>

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Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) <[hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)>

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Thank you, Connie - agreed. I discussed with John last week and suggested a Triage & Consultation staffing of the case to help provide additional guidance to the office. Since Ursula indicated in a previous email that both mom and daughter needed services, I think thoroughly addressing mom's and daughter's issues individually and collectively will help determine next steps. **RCW 13.50.100** We should ensure this is fully assessed and addressed, including her being "fearful" of going back home to mom.

**JOEL ODIMBA** / REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR / Division of Children & Family Services

Children's Administration, Region 3

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 253-983-6258 Tacoma / (C) 206-954-4276 / [joel.odimba@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:joel.odimba@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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To: Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>; March, John (DSHS/CA) <[MARCHJR@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:MARCHJR@dshs.wa.gov)>;

Petters, Ursula (DSHS/CA) <[PETTEUR@DSHS.WA.GOV](mailto:PETTEUR@DSHS.WA.GOV)>

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26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra

201805-PRR-261 / Appeal

DCYF - 002453

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**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
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With warm regard, Connie.

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**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
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the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.

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[RCW 70.02.020] I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

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Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Caldier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" and last name "Caldier" clearly distinguishable.

**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
To: [Caldier, Rep. Michelle](#)  
Date: 10/31/2017 12:05:29 AM  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Kind greetings Representative Caldier:

I certainly understand your desire to meet with this young woman. We want to support that contact. We appreciate your consideration of the complex and sensitive aspects to this matter and thank you for understanding the limits we have in providing you with more information.

Young people attempting to manage significant challenges in their life need as many strong adult supports as they can find to help them navigate and make good decisions.

Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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---

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

This case has been thoroughly reviewed. The child's perspective is always heavily considered; there are also additional factors that must be taken into account. Due to confidentiality laws, without a signed release of information, I am unable to share any case details with you.

Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, if there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002458

## Transforming Lives

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in [RCW 13.50.100] County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, [RCW 13.50.100] High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as [RCW 70.02.020] about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is [RCW 70.02.020] she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.*

*Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.*

*One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.*

*My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the [RCW 13.50.100]. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.*

*It was always these things that happened, she was always starting things and then playing the victim afterwards and pretending it never happened. She loved to take video recordings or audio recordings falsely claiming things. For one instance, she took a video recording I believe, claiming that my father was hitting her and you could hear her screaming for my father to "get off her" when he was across the room telling her to knock it off. She then panned then camera down to show the bruises and scratch marks she left on herself claiming that my father did it to her.*

*She didn't even protect me when my brother was [RCW 13.50.100] me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He [RCW 13.50.100] me for three years and she did nothing to*



stop it.

*This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.*

*Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on end. I had RCW 70.02.020 around her and I was RCW 70.02.020 RCW 70.02.020*

*I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.*

*I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become RCW 70.02.020 I have RCW 70.02.020, and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.*

*I love the foster family that I am in now. is really nice, and I can see myself staying with her until I turn 18. I do not feel safe going back to my mother. I cannot stress that enough. I feel stable, mentally, emotionally, physically, with my current family right now.*

*They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.*

*I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.*

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

From: [Caldier, Rep. Michelle <Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

To: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/3/2017 5:19:32 PM

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. My office will work on a time to meet with her. I wanted to clarify that I could meet with her one-on-one and did not need supervision from the agency to speak with her.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

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From: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 5:05 PM

To: Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>

Cc: Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Kind greetings Representative Caldier:

I certainly understand your desire to meet with this young woman. We want to support that contact. We appreciate your consideration of the complex and sensitive aspects to this matter and thank you for understanding the limits we have in providing you with more information.

Young people attempting to manage significant challenges in their life need as many strong adult supports as they can find to help them navigate and make good decisions.

Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

From: Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra

201805-PRR-261 / Appeal

DCYF - 002461

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment RCW 70.02.020, and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home RCW 70.02.020. I have no stability and you would think that someone with RCW 70.02.020 would at least get some stability and routine.*

**RCW 13.50.100** *. All I know is that I cannot go back to my mother, that is the last thing I want and I will go to extreme measures to avoid that.*

*I can meet anytime after 2:30 in the afternoon. I'll give you my social workers number and maybe you guys can work something out.*

*Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848*

*Thank you,*

I don't want to cause any issues in this case, but I would like to meet with her if possible. Please let me know if it would be inappropriate to contact her social worker to arrange a meeting.

Warmest Regards,



Michelle Caldier  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
To: Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
Cc: Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

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Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, **if** there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in [RCW 13.50.100] County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, [RCW 13.50.100] High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as [RCW 70.02.020] about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is [RCW 70.02.020] she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for*



domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.

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This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.

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**RCW 70.02.020** I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become **RCW 70.02.020** I have **RCW 70.02.020**, and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.

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They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.

I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my

understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Caldier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" and the last name "Caldier" clearly distinguishable.

**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

From: [Caldier, Rep. Michelle <Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

To: [<Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)>](mailto:Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA))

Date: 11/4/2017 6:52:25 PM

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. My office contacted the social worker and were told that he would need to be present for the meeting. I was under the impression that I am able to connect with the child directly. Can you please clarify if the social worker would need to be present?

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 5:05 PM

To: Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>

Cc: Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

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Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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From: Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra

201805-PRR-261 / Appeal

DCYF - 002466

Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM  
To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment **RCW 70.02.020**, and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home **RCW 70.02.020**. I have no stability and you would think that someone with **RCW 70.02.020** would at least get some stability and routine.*

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Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848

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Warmest Regards,



Michelle Caldier  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
To: Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
Cc: Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002467



Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

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Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

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*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father*

of domestic abuse and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.

Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.

One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.

My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the **RCW 13.50.100**. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.

It was always these things that happened, she was always starting things and then playing the victim afterwards and pretending it never happened. She loved to take video recordings or audio recordings falsely claiming things. For one instance, she took a video recording I believe, claiming that my father was hitting her and you could hear her screaming for my father to "get off her" when he was across the room telling her to knock it off. She then panned then camera down to show the bruises and scratch marks she left on herself claiming that my father did it to her.

She didn't even protect me when my brother was **RCW 13.50.100** me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He **RCW 13.50.100** me for three years and she did nothing to stop it.

This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.

Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on end. I had **RCW 70.02.020** around her and I was **RCW 70.02.020** **RCW 70.02.020**

**RCW 70.02.020** I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become **RCW 70.02.020** I have **RCW 70.02.020**, and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.

I love the foster family that I am in now. is really nice, and I can see myself staying with her until I turn 18. I do not feel safe going back to my mother. I cannot stress that enough. I feel stable, mentally, emotionally, physically, with my current family right now.

They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.

I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today

that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Caldier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" and the last name "Caldier" clearly distinguishable.

**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/14/2017 6:25:57 PM

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Did we clarify the youth can meet independently with the Rep and has the Rep been informed? Thanks, C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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From: Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 8:52 AM

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Hitchings, Edith (DSHS/CA) <[HitchED@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:HitchED@dshs.wa.gov)>

Cc: Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

I just reached out to Joel on this.

---

From: Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) On Behalf Of Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 8:43 AM

To: Hitchings, Edith (DSHS/CA) <[HitchED@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:HitchED@dshs.wa.gov)>; Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) <[hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)>

Cc: Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: FW: Constituent Issue

Edith, do you want to reach out to the Rep.?

*Diana Harder* / Executive Secretary

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7821 / [diana.harder@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:diana.harder@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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From: Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

Sent: Saturday, November 4, 2017 11:52 AM

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. My office contacted the social worker and were told that he would need to be present for the meeting. I was under the impression that I am able to connect with the child directly. Can you please clarify if the social worker would need to be present?

Warmest Regards,





**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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---

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 5:05 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Kind greetings Representative Caldier:

I certainly understand your desire to meet with this young woman. We want to support that contact. We appreciate your consideration of the complex and sensitive aspects to this matter and thank you for understanding the limits we have in providing you with more information.

Young people attempting to manage significant challenges in their life need as many strong adult supports as they can find to help them navigate and make good decisions.

Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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---

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment [RCW 70.02.020], and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home [RCW 70.02.020]. I have no stability and you would think that someone with [RCW 70.02.020] would at least get some stability and routine.*

**RCW 13.50.100** *. All I know is that I cannot go back to my mother, that is the last thing I want and I will go to extreme measures to avoid that.*

*I can meet anytime after 2:30 in the afternoon. I'll give you my social workers number and maybe you guys can work something out.*

*Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848*

*Thank you,*

I don't want to cause any issues in this case, but I would like to meet with her if possible. Please let me know if it would be inappropriate to contact her social worker to arrange a meeting.

Warmest Regards,



Michelle Caldier  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

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**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

This case has been thoroughly reviewed. The child's perspective is always heavily considered; there are also additional factors that must be taken into account. Due to confidentiality laws, without a signed release of information, I am unable to share any case details with you.

Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, **if** there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in [REDACTED] County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, [REDACTED] High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as [REDACTED] about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is [REDACTED] she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.*

*Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.*

*One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten*



to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.

My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the [RCW 13.50.100]. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.

It was always these things that happened, she was always starting things and then playing the victim afterwards and pretending it never happened. She loved to take video recordings or audio recordings falsely claiming things. For one instance, she took a video recording I believe, claiming that my father was hitting her and you could hear her screaming for my father to "get off her" when he was across the room telling her to knock it off. She then panned then camera down to show the bruises and scratch marks she left on herself claiming that my father did it to her.

She didn't even protect me when my brother was [RCW 13.50.100] me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He [RCW 13.50.100] me for three years and she did nothing to stop it.

This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.

Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on end. I had [RCW 70.02.020] around her and I was [RCW 70.02.020]. [RCW 70.02.020]

[redacted] I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become [RCW 70.02.020] I have [RCW 70.02.020], and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.

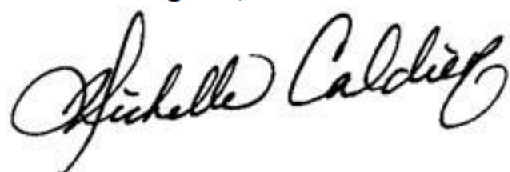
I love the foster family that I am in now. is really nice, and I can see myself staying with her until I turn 18. I do not feel safe going back to my mother. I cannot stress that enough. I feel stable, mentally, emotionally, physically, with my current family right now.

They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.

I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District



( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/14/2017 6:43:52 PM

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Great. Thank you, C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

From: Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 10:27 AM

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Yes, the meeting already happened. The worker said they never intended to be present.

---

From: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Tuesday, November 14, 2017 10:26 AM

To: Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) <[hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Did we clarify the youth can meet independently with the Rep and has the Rep been informed? Thanks, C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

From: Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 8:52 AM

To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Hitchings, Edith (DSHS/CA)

<[HitchED@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:HitchED@dshs.wa.gov)>

Cc: Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

I just reached out to Joel on this.

---

From: Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) On Behalf Of Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2017 8:43 AM

To: Hitchings, Edith (DSHS/CA) <[HitchED@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:HitchED@dshs.wa.gov)>; Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) <[hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)>

Cc: Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>

Subject: FW: Constituent Issue

Edith, do you want to reach out to the Rep.?

*Diana Harder* / Executive Secretary

Children's Administration

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra

201805-PRR-261 / Appeal

DCYF - 002477

*Transforming Lives*

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**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2017 11:52 AM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. My office contacted the social worker and were told that he would need to be present for the meeting. I was under the impression that I am able to connect with the child directly. Can you please clarify if the social worker would need to be present?

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
(360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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---

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 5:05 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Kind greetings Representative Caldier:

I certainly understand your desire to meet with this young woman. We want to support that contact. We appreciate your consideration of the complex and sensitive aspects to this matter and thank you for understanding the limits we have in providing you with more information.

Young people attempting to manage significant challenges in their life need as many strong adult supports as they can find to help them navigate and make good decisions.

Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002478

From: Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]  
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM  
To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment RCW 70.02.020, and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home RCW 70.02.020. I have no stability and you would think that someone with RCW 70.02.020 would at least get some stability and routine.*

*RCW 13.50.100. All I know is that I cannot go back to my mother, that is the last thing I want and I will go to extreme measures to avoid that.*

*I can meet anytime after 2:30 in the afternoon. I'll give you my social workers number and maybe you guys can work something out.*

*Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848*

*Thank you,*

I don't want to cause any issues in this case, but I would like to meet with her if possible. Please let me know if it would be inappropriate to contact her social worker to arrange a meeting.

Warmest Regards,



Michelle Caldier  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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---

From: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
To: Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002479



**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

This case has been thoroughly reviewed. The child's perspective is always heavily considered; there are also additional factors that must be taken into account. Due to confidentiality laws, without a signed release of information, I am unable to share any case details with you.

Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, **if** there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
[360-902-7820](tel:360-902-7820) / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)  
*Transforming Lives*

---

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in RCW 13.50.100 County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, RCW 13.50.100 High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as RCW 70.02.020 about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is RCW 70.02.020 she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.

Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.

One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.

My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the **RCW 13.50.100**. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.

It was always these things that happened, she was always starting things and then playing the victim afterwards and pretending it never happened. She loved to take video recordings or audio recordings falsely claiming things. For one instance, she took a video recording I believe, claiming that my father was hitting her and you could hear her screaming for my father to "get off her" when he was across the room telling her to knock it off. She then panned then camera down to show the bruises and scratch marks she left on herself claiming that my father did it to her.

She didn't even protect me when my brother was **RCW 13.50.100** me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He **RCW 13.50.100** me for three years and she did nothing to stop it.

This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.

Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on end. I had **RCW 70.02.020** around her and I was **RCW 70.02.020** **RCW 70.02.020**

**I did** not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become **RCW 70.02.020** I have **RCW 70.02.020**, and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.

I love the foster family that I am in now. is really nice, and I can see myself staying with her until I turn 18. I do not feel safe going back to my mother. I cannot stress that enough. I feel stable, mentally, emotionally, physically, with my current family right now.

They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.

I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Caldier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" and last name "Caldier" clearly distinguishable.

**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
To: [Caldier, Rep. Michelle](#)  
Date: 11/14/2017 6:45:03 PM  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Hello Representative Caldier,  
I am just returning from holiday...I understand this matter has been resolved. Should that not be the case please don't hesitate to get back in touch. My thanks, Connie.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)  
*Transforming Lives*

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From: Caldier, Rep. Michelle [mailto:[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)]  
Sent: Saturday, November 4, 2017 11:52 AM  
To: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. My office contacted the social worker and were told that he would need to be present for the meeting. I was under the impression that I am able to connect with the child directly. Can you please clarify if the social worker would need to be present?

Warmest Regards,



Michelle Caldier  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
(360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [mailto:[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)]  
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 5:05 PM  
To: Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
Cc: Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Kind greetings Representative Caldier:  
I certainly understand your desire to meet with this young woman. We want to support that contact. We appreciate your consideration of the complex and sensitive aspects to this matter and thank you for understanding the limits we have in providing you with more



information.

Young people attempting to manage significant challenges in their life need as many strong adult supports as they can find to help them navigate and make good decisions.

Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment [RCW 70.02.020], and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home [RCW 70.02.020]. I have no stability and you would think that someone with [RCW 70.02.020] would at least get some stability and routine.*

*[RCW 13.50.100]. All I know is that I cannot go back to my mother, that is the last thing I want and I will go to extreme measures to avoid that.*

*I can meet anytime after 2:30 in the afternoon. I'll give you my social workers number and maybe you guys can work something out.*

*Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848*

*Thank you,*

I don't want to cause any issues in this case, but I would like to meet with her if possible. Please let me know if it would be inappropriate to contact her social worker to arrange a meeting.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
(360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[Sign Up](#) for my e-newsletter!

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**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

This case has been thoroughly reviewed. The child's perspective is always heavily considered; there are also additional factors that must be taken into account. Due to confidentiality laws, without a signed release of information, I am unable to share any case details with you.

Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, **if** there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002485

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in [RCW 13.50.100] County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, [RCW 13.50.100] High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as [RCW 70.02.020] about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is [RCW 70.02.020] she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.*

*Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.*

*One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.*

*My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the [RCW 13.50.100]. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.*

*It was always these things that happened, she was always starting things and then playing the victim afterwards and pretending it never happened. She loved to take video recordings or audio recordings falsely claiming things. For one instance, she took a video recording I believe, claiming that my father was hitting her and you could hear her screaming for my father to "get off her" when he was across the room telling her to knock it off. She then panned then camera down to show the bruises and scratch marks she left on herself claiming that my father did it to her.*

*She didn't even protect me when my brother was [RCW 13.50.100] me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He [RCW 13.50.100] me for three years and she did nothing to stop it.*

*This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.*

*Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on*

end. I had [RCW 70.02.020] around her and I was [RCW 70.02.020]. [RCW 70.02.020]

I did

not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become [RCW 70.02.020] I have [RCW 70.02.020], and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.

I love the foster family that I am in now. is really nice, and I can see myself staying with her until I turn 18. I do not feel safe going back to my mother. I cannot stress that enough. I feel stable, mentally, emotionally, physically, with my current family right now.

They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.

I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Taylor, Rebecca S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/15/2017 12:55:46 AM

Subject: RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

Thank you, Meri. Will take a closer look at this....appreciate you doing the research. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov>; Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <hardedx@dshs.wa.gov>

**Subject:** RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

I told Connie I'd do some research at the October 1624 meeting for any type of Whistleblower provision for caregivers who file a complaint regarding retaliation. "Whistleblower" was not found in any of the materials related to foster parent reports. I did find that Oklahoma has an excellent, updated Admin. Code on this issue.

#### 1. Oklahoma:

**340:2-3-38. Investigation of foster parent complaints of retaliation, discrimination, or harassment (Oklahoma Admin. Code Section) has thoroughly developed one page policy revised in 09/17 on these issues with Scope, Procedure, Confidentiality and Prohibition against interference. Included on the document are Instructions to Staff**

<http://www.okdhs.org/library/policy/pages/oac340002030038000.aspx>

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
To: [Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
Date: 11/15/2017 2:52:22 AM  
Subject: FW: Foster Care Support survey

I totally agree with the assessment that this is interesting..... quite surprised at the response related to retaliation. Very unscientific. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)  
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**From:** Hunter, Ross (DCYF)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2017 4:54 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Queral, Marybeth (DSHS) <[QueraMB@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:QueraMB@dshs.wa.gov)>; Moss, Heather (DEL) <[heather.moss@del.wa.gov](mailto:heather.moss@del.wa.gov)>; Ordway, Frank (DEL) <[Frank.Ordway@del.wa.gov](mailto:Frank.Ordway@del.wa.gov)>; Ybarra, Vickie (DCYF) <[vickie.ybarra@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:vickie.ybarra@dcyf.wa.gov)>; Steenhout, Michael (DEL) <[mike.steenhout@del.wa.gov](mailto:mike.steenhout@del.wa.gov)>; Heddin, Jenny (DSHS/CA) <[greenlj@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:greenlj@dshs.wa.gov)>; Moses, Ken (DSHS/JR) <[MosesKX@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:MosesKX@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Johnston, Kari (DCYF) <[kari.johnston@dcyf.wa.gov](mailto:kari.johnston@dcyf.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Foster Care Support survey

This is pretty interesting.

Ross Hunter  
Secretary  
WA State Department of Children, Youth, and Families  
w (360) 407-7909  
c (360) 515-8972  
[www.dcyf.wa.gov](http://www.dcyf.wa.gov)

**From:** Shannon Love [mailto:[RCW.13.50.100@gmail.com](mailto:RCW.13.50.100@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2017 11:20 AM  
**To:** Kagi, Ruth <[ruth.kagi@leg.wa.gov](mailto:ruth.kagi@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Foster Care Support survey

Good morning!

I hope you are doing well! Just wanted to send you a couple things you might be interested in seeing as we have continued connecting with Foster Parents in Washington. We are very hopeful for the new agency and the amazing leadership that is in place. Thank you for hearing us as you create the new department! We know that foster parents are so hopeful for positive changes. In the last 2 weeks, we have asked foster parents 2 questions and their responses are linked below:

- 1) Do you have foster kids that have been in care for over 2 years?  
<https://www.facebook.com/fosteringchangewa/posts/1909834296001940>
- 2) What would help you feel more supported as a foster parent?  
<https://fans.vote/ACrgVihMPNQ>

Thank you for your time and we hope to chat soon!  
-Shannon Love

[www.FosteringChangeWA.org](http://www.FosteringChangeWA.org)  
[facebook.com/FosteringChangeWA](https://facebook.com/FosteringChangeWA)

**THE FOSTERING CHANGE TEAM:**  
Shannon Love / Jessica Hanna  
Tyann Whitworth / Jennica Corry

From: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/15/2017 4:50:58 PM

Subject: RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

You are welcome! I am grateful for the great leadership, modeling of respect and appreciation you always show for our caregivers!

---

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 4:56 PM

**To:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA) <[waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)>; Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <[TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

Thank you, Meri. Will take a closer look at this....appreciate you doing the research. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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---

**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <[TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov)>; Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

I told Connie I'd do some research at the October 1624 meeting for any type of Whistleblower provision for caregivers who file a complaint regarding retaliation. "Whistleblower" was not found in any of the materials related to foster parent reports. I did find that Oklahoma has an excellent, updated Admin. Code on this issue.

#### 1. Oklahoma:

**340:2-3-38. Investigation of foster parent complaints of retaliation, discrimination, or harassment (Oklahoma Admin. Code Section) has thoroughly developed one page policy revised in 09/17 on these issues with Scope, Procedure, Confidentiality and Prohibition against interference. Included on the document are Instructions to Staff**

<http://www.okdhs.org/library/policy/pages/oac340002030038000.aspx>

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/15/2017 6:50:59 PM

Subject: RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

J C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 15, 2017 8:51 AM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

You are welcome! I am grateful for the great leadership, modeling of respect and appreciation you always show for our caregivers!

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 4:56 PM

**To:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA) <[waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)>; Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <[TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

Thank you, Meri. Will take a closer look at this....appreciate you doing the research. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <[TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov)>; Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

I told Connie I'd do some research at the October 1624 meeting for any type of Whistleblower provision for caregivers who file a complaint regarding retaliation. "Whistleblower" was not found in any of the materials related to foster parent reports. I did find that Oklahoma has an excellent, updated Admin. Code on this issue.

**1. Oklahoma:**

**340:2-3-38. Investigation of foster parent complaints of retaliation, discrimination, or harassment (Oklahoma Admin. Code Section) has thoroughly developed one page policy revised in 09/17 on these issues with Scope, Procedure, Confidentiality and Prohibition against interference. Included on the document are Instructions to Staff**

<http://www.okdhs.org/library/policy/pages/oac340002030038000.aspx>



From: [Caldier, Rep. Michelle <Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

To: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 11/19/2017 5:13:36 PM

Subject: RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. It was great meeting you the other day. I will be sure to follow-up if there are any other issues.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**

State Representative

26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 10:45 AM

**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Hello Representative Caldier,

I am just returning from holiday...I understand this matter has been resolved. Should that not be the case please don't hesitate to get back in touch. My thanks, Connie.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Saturday, November 4, 2017 11:52 AM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your help. My office contacted the social worker and were told that he would need to be present for the meeting. I was under the impression that I am able to connect with the child directly. Can you please clarify if the social worker would need to be present?

Warmest Regards,

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002492



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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---

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 5:05 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) <[ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:ODIMBJO@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Kind greetings Representative Caldier:

I certainly understand your desire to meet with this young woman. We want to support that contact. We appreciate your consideration of the complex and sensitive aspects to this matter and thank you for understanding the limits we have in providing you with more information.

Young people attempting to manage significant challenges in their life need as many strong adult supports as they can find to help them navigate and make good decisions.

Please feel free to make contact with Mr. Fontenelle to set up an opportunity. I have discussed this with Mr. Odimba, the Regional Administrator so he can not only be aware but offer assistance as needed.

Thank you again for your caring and compassion. Connie

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 30, 2017 12:18 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Connie,

Thank you for your reply. My office received the following email from the student that I emailed you about last week:

*Any days would be fine. They moved me to a "therapeutic" home for reasons beyond me. I was really happy in my previous home and then they up and moved me to another home claiming that I needed help. I am on strict lockdown, I can't have any internet access so therefore I am doing all this in the school. I can't leave the house unsupervised and I can't have any internet access.*

*At this point I really don't know what to do. They aren't allowing me any contact with my last foster mother, whom I really liked being with and had a stable environment [RCW 70.02.020], and then they move me out of the blue during school, to another home [RCW 70.02.020]. I have no stability and you would think that someone with [RCW 70.02.020] would at least get some stability and routine.*

**RCW 13.50.100** *. All I know is that I cannot go back to my mother, that is the last thing I want and I will go to extreme measures to avoid that.*

*I can meet anytime after 2:30 in the afternoon. I'll give you my social workers number and maybe you guys can work something out.*

*Greg Fontenelle (social worker) : 360- 917-5848*

*Thank you,*

*I don't want to cause any issues in this case, but I would like to meet with her if possible. Please let me know if it would be inappropriate to contact her social worker to arrange a meeting.*

*Warmest Regards,*



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District  
( (360) 786-7802  
\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) [<mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 26, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle <[Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Del Villar Fox, David (DSHS/CA) <[delvida@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:delvida@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Constituent Issue

Dear Representative Caldier,

Thank you for bringing this case to my attention. We are committed to reviewing our work and making decisions with a focus on child safety and wellbeing.

This case has been thoroughly reviewed. The child's perspective is always heavily considered; there are also additional factors that must be taken into account. Due to confidentiality laws, without a signed release of information, I am unable to share any case details with you.

Regarding your concerns of legal representation for the child, **if** there is court oversight, all children age 12 and older are asked if they would like legal representation. If the child does want an attorney assigned to them, our policy requires the social worker to assist them in obtaining legal representation.

Please have this child contact Rebecca Taylor with Constituent Relations at 360-902-8352. Ms. Taylor is familiar with the case and can answer her questions and help address her concerns. This same option certainly exists for the involved caregiver. Contact with the Ombuds is also encouraged. Again, there are aspects to this matter that I cannot speak to and I keenly understand any frustration at only hearing one side of the story.

Thank you for your strong advocacy for children involved in Washington State's child welfare system. You are appreciated!

With warm regard, Connie.

Ombuds: <http://www.ofco.wa.gov/>

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

---

**From:** Caldier, Rep. Michelle [<mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:24 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Constituent Issue

Connie,

I received the following email from a student in [REDACTED] County and wanted to share it with you.

*It started on October 9, 2017. I was coming into my school, [REDACTED] High School, for an emergency meeting with my counselor that my mother had set up because I had gotten in trouble with her. We get into the conference room and I couldn't deal with the lies that my mother was spewing and me always covering her up or keeping my mouth shut whenever she told me to. I blew up because I got so angry and I guess I said some things that had concerned my counselor enough that she pulled me aside and wanted to talk to me alone. When she pulled me aside I had broken down, sobbing and having a panic attack. I told her everything my mother did to me and was doing to me.*

*Every since I can remember my mother has always been dramatically up and down with her mood swings. She was a narcissistic, she still is, but that made it difficult on my family's life. She got diagnosed as [REDACTED] about 10 years or so ago, and has always refused to admit it. She has spent the last 10 years denying that she is [REDACTED] she will obviously think she doesn't have any problems.*

*Back to things, my parents got divorced in November? of 2009 and that's when things really went south, and fast. My mother literally got knocked off her rocker, she went absolutely mental, started accusing my father of domestic abuse and and my middle brother of abuse as well. She tried to get my father locked up for domestic abuse and she succeeded in getting my middle brother locked up in juvie a lot of times. I always remember the cops showing up at the door because my mother had called them based off of false accusations against my father and middle brother.*

*Don't get me wrong, my brother is mental and my father isn't perfect by any means, and I'm not defending anyone, i'm just simply stating that my mother is the master of false accusations and being two-faced. She is always playing the victim and I had grown up seeing this as normal and didn't know any better. I didn't know that my mother and father hitting each other wasn't normal, that the cops showing up at my house more than once a month asking to speak to either my father or brother wasn't normal. I had grown up thinking this was just fine and dandy, normal family business.*

*One particularly stressful night was when my father had come home later than he said he would be arriving and my mother had automatically jumped to the conclusion that he was out cheating and started hitting him and throwing things. My brother seeing this got all riled up and joined in on the action, but instead of just targeting one person he targeted everyone and specifically me. He would throw things at me, threaten*



to kill me all the time, and hurt me physically and mentally. He learned all that from my mother, which doesn't make that his fault but it also doesn't excuse his behavior.

My mother grabbed me off the floor and shoved me into the van, and we took off to the neighborhood Burger King on the [RCW 13.50.100]. We stayed the night in the parking lot and the next day went back home. My mother pretending everything was fine and like nothing major had happened the night before.

It was always these things that happened, she was always starting things and then playing the victim afterwards and pretending it never happened. She loved to take video recordings or audio recordings falsely claiming things. For one instance, she took a video recording I believe, claiming that my father was hitting her and you could hear her screaming for my father to "get off her" when he was across the room telling her to knock it off. She then panned then camera down to show the bruises and scratch marks she left on herself claiming that my father did it to her.

She didn't even protect me when my brother was [RCW 13.50.100] me in 2010. She claimed I was saying it for attention and that I was making things up. He [RCW 13.50.100] me for three years and she did nothing to stop it.

This is just a little glimpse of what it was like in the daily life.

Back to October 9th, when I shared all this with my counselor, she immediately called the police and then the police came and asked me to tell them everything I had already shared with. Then the police asked me what I wanted to do, If I wanted to go back home with my mother, or get placed in foster care. I chose foster care because I do not feel safe at home. She can literally snap at any second and hurt me or even worse. She was always playing mind games with me and it was like walking on eggshells around her. I didn't know what to say, when to say it and if I was going to trigger her and she would hit me or play with my head for days on end. I had [RCW 70.02.020] around her and I was [RCW 70.02.020] [RCW 70.02.020]

[RCW 70.02.020] I did not want to come back to my mother. I knew that I wouldn't be able to handle it and I would try running away. My father told me numerous times to just keep my head down and survive another 4 years until I turned 18. That didn't happen.

I didn't know what to do so on Friday October 6th, and Saturday October 7th, I had tried running away in the middle of the night. Both nights I was caught and couldn't leave. I can't handle my mother, I become [RCW 70.02.020] I have [RCW 70.02.020], and I cannot deal with the mind fuckery that my mother puts me through. I'm sorry to use to words but its the only way to express the way she does things.

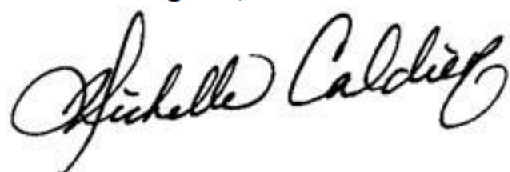
I love the foster family that I am in now. is really nice, and I can see myself staying with her until I turn 18. I do not feel safe going back to my mother. I cannot stress that enough. I feel stable, mentally, emotionally, physically, with my current family right now.

They are wanting to send me back and I don't think I have the mental capacity to handle that. They still haven't given me an attorney, and I would very much like one.

I would also like to file a dependency on myself, I don't know how that works but i'll get in contact with someone who does.

After this child contacted my office via email, we are told that her case worker would not allow her to contact me again and would not allow access to the internet. She left a voicemail and we learned today that she was removed from the foster home and placed in a therapeutic foster home instead. It is my understanding that the child has not been provided legal representation, and the foster mother fears retaliation from the case worker. Please let me know what steps I need to take to ensure the teen is able to receive the best and safest outcome.

Warmest Regards,



**Michelle Caldier**  
State Representative  
26th Legislative District

( (360) 786-7802

\* [Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Michelle.Caldier@leg.wa.gov)

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From: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Aaron Edwards](#)  
[Alla Mishin](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[AMY GARDNER](#)  
[Beth Canfield](#)  
[Bogart, Michelle \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Canfield, Mike](#)  
[Christiansen, Michelle A \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Chung, Xuan \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Churchwell, Jason \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Corrales, Marissa \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Daniel Garcia](#)  
[Devoy, Peggy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Effland, Ron \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Fernandez, Arthur \(UW Alliance\)](#)  
[Geiger, Barbara \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Green, Natalie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hannon, Denise E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hunt, Anne \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hurd, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Jean Brownell](#)  
[Jennings, Robin S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Johnson, Bolesha R. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Johnson, Silvia \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Kim Fordham \(kfordham@ewu.edu\)](#)  
[Kincaid, Jeff \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[LaBelle, Nicole \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lawlor, Yen \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Leeann Marshel](#)  
[Lisa Page](#)  
[Luke Wickham](#)  
[Lynn, Debbie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[March, John \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Marzest, Yolanda](#)  
[McKeown, Pamela \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Megan Caswell](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[Melissa Russell](#)  
[Michael Tyers](#)  
[Michael Wittry](#)  
[Morrison, Deanna \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Needham, David A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Odimba, Joel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pemberton, Jon C. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Perez, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pritchard, Darla E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[R.C. Laird](#)  
[Ramsay, Kathy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Ray Deck 3](#)  
[Ray Deck III](#)  
[Rhodes, Chris \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Rissone, Joseph \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Robert Hunner](#)  
[Robinson, Lynn \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Sara Robitaille \(SRobitaille@coordinatedcarehealth.com\)](#)  
[Sebastian, Toni \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Shala Crow](#)  
[Shanna Alvarez](#)  
[Sheryl Herd](#)  
[Silvia Zarate](#)  
[Stephanie Vombaur](#)  
[Tacchini, Jeanine M \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Taylor, Rebecca S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Teena Williams](#)  
[Teeter, Anita \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Thomas, Joyce \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tosti-Lane, Linda \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tovar, Maria D \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Turner, Patricia A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tyler Helbach](#)  
[Van Veen, Hannahlyn J. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Victoria O'Banion](#) [RCW 13.50.100](#) [@gmail.com](#)  
[Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Welch, Maribel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Wright, Kristina \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 4/13/2018 2:14:39 AM

Subject: CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018

Attachments: CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018.docx

d\plainHello Everyone,

d\plain

d\plainAttached is the agenda for the CAFPT (1624) Monday, April 16, 1:- 5:00 p.m. video conference meeting. Please have your video conference sites linked in early as we will begin the meeting right at 1:00 p.m. Log-in information for the video conference and for those who must call in via a phone line are below.

d\plain

d\plainConference ID: [RCW 42.56.230\(5\)](#) and Access Code [RCW 42.56.230\(5\)](#)

d\plainPhone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN: [RCW 42.56.230\(5\)](#)

d\plain

d\plainAll handouts are embedded as links in the agenda document.

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainIf you have questions, please contact Meri Waterhouse at: [waterML@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterML@dshs.wa.gov) or at 360-902-8035 before 11:00 a.m. At that time I will be in a meeting and unavailable until our video conference meeting begins. If you have an urgent need regarding the meeting after 11:00 please contact our administrative assistant, Christie Boman for help at: [boydcha@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:boydcha@dshs.wa.gov) or at: 360-902-7653.

d\plain

d\plainThanks everyone for the work you do to support our caregivers!

d\plain

d\plain

**d\plainMeri Waterhouse** / Program Manager / Foster Care Recruitment & Retention

d\plainChildren's Administration

d\plainWashington State Department of Social and Health Services

d\plain1115 Washington St., S.E. / PO Box 45710

d\plainOlympia, WA 98504-5710

d\plain360-902-8035 / [waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)

d\plainTransforming Lives

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainConsider becoming a foster parent – kids from your community who have been abused and neglected need your help. Will it be easy? Not every day. . . Will it be worth it? **Absolutely!**

[www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents)

d\plain

d\plain



# CAFPT (1624) VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

April 16, 2018


1:00 – 4:00 pm



**Conference ID:** RCW 42.56.250(4) **and Access Code:** RCW 42.56.250(4)


**Phone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN:** RCW 42.56.250(4)


## Team Members:

X	Victoria O'Banion Reg. 1 N.		Alla Mishin Reg. 1 N.		Silvia Zarate Reg. 1 S.		Vacant Reg. 1 S.	X	Ray Deck Reg. 2 N.	X	Lisa Page Reg. 2 N.	X	Aaron Edwards Reg. 2 S.	X	Shanna Alvarez Reg. 2 S.
X	Teena Williams Reg. 3 N.	X	Krista Piger Reg. 3 N.	X	Amy Gardner Reg. 3 S.		Stephanie Vombaur Reg. 3 S.	X	Beth Canfield FPAWS	X	Mike Canfield FPAWS				
	Connie Lambert- Eckel Act. Assist. Sec., CA	X	Toni Sebastian Dir. P & Policy CA	X	Barb Geiger Office Chief CA	X	Jeff Kincaid RA, Reg. 1 CA		Natalie Green RA, Reg. 2 CA		Joel Odimba RA, Reg. 3 CA	X	Darcey Hancock Acting Field Ops Director, CA	X	Ron Effland Acting DLR Admin CA
X	Meri Waterhouse FP R & R PM CA	X	Becky Taylor DLR PM, CA		Reg. 1 North First Alternate: Megan Caswell	x	Reg. 2 South First Alternate: Daniel J. Garcia		Reg. 2 South Second Alternate: Michael Wittry		Reg. 3 South First Alternate: Sheryl Herd		Reg. 3 South Second Alternate: RC Laird		

❖ Materials included as attachments in email				➤ Decision / additional action required	
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ due date
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Roll Call Bob Hunner				
Old Business					
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ Due Date
1:10 – 1:35	1. Civility/Respect/Communication – Retaliation  Civility - Respect - Communication - Elim	U		Follow-up report on April 12 meeting  Meeting with Omsbuds Office	Connie Lambert-Eckel, CA  Aaron Edwards, 1624 Reg. 2 South
	❖ 2. “So you have a new placement” committee report	I  U			Beth Canfield, FPAWS

	<p>3. CATs subgroup regarding OurKids app features</p> <p>4. CA proposed WAC revisions (RCW 34.05.310)</p> <p>5. Communication with FP regarding court dates</p> <p>“Re-homing” – Definition sought</p>	<p>U</p> <p>U</p>		<p>CA will develop a template for court reports to share with AOC</p>	<p>Anne Hunt, CATS</p> <p>Krissy Wright, DLR</p> <p>Toni Sebastian</p> <p>Toni Sebastian/FPAWS</p>
New Business – Each regional area may bring up to two (2) agenda items for discussion/action.					
1:35 – 2:10	<p><b>Children’s Administration:</b></p> <p>1. Relative Search Caregiver E-Learning Training development overview.</p> <p>2. Developing a Rights and Responsibilities Document for Caregivers <i>(Draft Sample sent to Team attached below)</i></p> <p> Rights Responsibilities for FF</p> <p>❖ Review/Discuss documents from other jurisdictions</p> <p> Draft-WA Caregiver Bill of Rights 4-12-18.</p> <p>❖</p>	<p>I</p> <p>D</p>			<p>Debi Gomi, CA Relative Search Program Manager</p> <p>Becky Taylor and 1624 Reps</p>
2:10 – 2:30	<p><b>FPAWS:</b></p> <p>1. Moves without 5-day notices – Administrative Moves, Moves “not in the child’s best interest” – Is there a report that tracks 5-day notices?</p> <p>CA Practice and Procedures Guide:</p>	<p>D</p>			<p>Mike and Beth Canfield</p>

	<a href="https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/5000-case-support/5650-considerations-notification-placement-moves">https://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/5000-case-support/5650-considerations-notification-placement-moves</a>				
<b>2:30 – 2:50</b>	<b>Region 1 North:</b>  Lack of Community Conversations from DCYF in Eastern Washington	I			Victoria O’Banion and Alla Mishin
	<b>Region 1 South:</b>  No issues this quarter				
<b>2:50 – 3:10</b>	<b>Region 2 North:</b>  1. Visitation issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foster parents being pressured to transport or supervise</li> <li>Policy inconsistency: Biological parents being encouraged to attend medical appointments, etc., where foster parents’ right to privacy is being infringed.</li> </ul> 2. What changes can foster parents expect with the rollout of DCYF? For example, will DCYF recruit more childcare facilities willing to serve foster children?	I			Ray Deck and Lisa Page
		I			Ray Deck and Lisa Page
<b>3:10 - 3:30</b>	<b>Region 2 South:</b>  1. Timelines to Permanency project progress  2. Meet with CA/DEL leadership about the future of 1624   Apprvd Amended CAFPT Charter effectiv	U			Aaron Edwards and Shanna Alvarez
❖		I			

	<p>Summary: Current Mission, Projects &amp; Future Directions (April 2018)</p> <p><a href="https://docs.google.com">https://docs.google.com</a></p> <p>RCW 13.50.100</p> <p>RCW 13.50.100</p>				
3:30 – 3:50	<p><b>Region 3 North:</b> Lack of daycare support for working foster parents with infants placed in their homes. Resources for infant spots in daycare facilities are limited. Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate increase for in-home foster parents that is comparable to licensed daycare centers.</li> </ul> <p>❖  child care rates - day care centers 2018.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More training for child care providers on how to support infants born drug affected.</li> <li>Increase licensed providers who can provide in-home daycare.</li> </ul>	D			<p>Reg. 3 North Representatives</p> <p>Teena Williams</p> <p>Krista Piger</p>
	<b>Region 3 South:</b> No Issues this quarter				
3:50 – 4:00	<b>Break</b>				
4:00- 5:00	Meet with DCYF and CA leadership				

**Next Video Conference Meeting: Monday, July 16, 2018; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

From: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
To: [Aaron Edwards](#)  
[Alla Mishin](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[AMY GARDNER](#)  
[Beth Canfield](#)  
[Bogart, Michelle \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Canfield, Mike](#)  
[Christiansen, Michelle A \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Chung, Xuan \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Churchwell, Jason \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Corrales, Marissa \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Daniel Garcia](#)  
[Devoy, Peggy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Effland, Ron \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Fernandez, Arthur \(UW Alliance\)](#)  
[Geiger, Barbara \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Green, Natalie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hannon, Denise E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hunt, Anne \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hurd, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Jean Brownell](#)  
[Jennings, Robin S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Johnson, Bolesha R. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Johnson, Silvia \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Kim Fordham \(kfordham@ewu.edu\)](#)  
[Kincaid, Jeff \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[LaBelle, Nicole \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lawlor, Yen \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Leeann Marshel](#)  
[Lisa Page](#)  
[Luke Wickham](#)  
[Lynn, Debbie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[March, John \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Marzest, Yolanda](#)  
[McKeown, Pamela \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Megan Caswel](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[Melissa Russell](#)  
[Michael Tyers](#)  
[Michael Wittry](#)  
[Morrison, Deanna \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Needham, David A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Odimba, Joel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pemberton, Jon C. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Perez, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pritchard, Darla E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)



[R.C. Laird](#)  
[Ramsay, Kathy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Ray Deck 3](#)  
[Ray Deck III](#)  
[Rhodes, Chris \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Rissone, Joseph \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Robert Hunner](#)  
[Robinson, Lynn \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Sara Robitaille \(SRobitaille@coordinatedcarehealth.com\)](#)  
[Sebastian, Toni \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Shala Crow](#)  
[Shanna Alvarez](#)  
[Sheryl Herd](#)  
[Silvia Zarate](#)  
[Stephanie Vombaur](#)  
[Tacchini, Jeanine M \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Taylor, Rebecca S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Teena Williams](#)  
[Teeter, Anita \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Thomas, Joyce \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tosti-Lane, Linda \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tovar, Maria D \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Turner, Patricia A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tyler Helbach](#)  
[Van Veen, Hannahlyn J. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Victoria O'Banion RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com\)](#)  
[Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Welch, Maribel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Wright, Kristina \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 4/13/2018 6:14:45 PM

Subject: AMENDED CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018

Attachments: AMENDED CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018.docx

d\plainPlease see the amended agenda; two documents have been embedded in the agenda document.  
d\plain

Old Business: #3: Foster Parent Portal Business Case  
d\plain

Old Business #5: AOC Dependency Court Order Template

d\plain

d\plainThank You,

d\plain

d\plain

**d\plainMeri Waterhouse** / Program Manager / Foster Care Recruitment & Retention

d\plainChildren's Administration

d\plainWashington State Department of Social and Health Services

d\plain1115 Washington St., S.E. / PO Box 45710

d\plainOlympia, WA 98504-5710

d\plain360-902-8035 / [waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)

*d\plainTransforming Lives*

d\plain

d\plain

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002506

d\plainConsider becoming a foster parent – kids from your community who have been abused and neglected need your help. Will it be easy? Not every day. . . Will it be worth it? ***Absolutely!***

[www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents)

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# CAFPT (1624) VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

April 16, 2018


1:00 – 4:00 pm





**Conference ID:** RCW 42.56.230(5) **and Access Code:** RCW 42.56.230(5)

**Phone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN:** RCW 42.56.230(5)

## Team Members:

X	Victoria O'Banion Reg. 1 N.		Alla Mishin Reg. 1 N.		Silvia Zarate Reg. 1 S.		Vacant Reg. 1 S.	X	Ray Deck Reg. 2 N.	X	Lisa Page Reg. 2 N.	X	Aaron Edwards Reg. 2 S.	X	Shanna Alvarez Reg. 2 S.
X	Teena Williams Reg. 3 N.	X	Krista Piger Reg. 3 N.	X	Amy Gardner Reg. 3 S.		Stephanie Vombaur Reg. 3 S.	X	Beth Canfield FPAWS	X	Mike Canfield FPAWS				
	Connie Lambert- Eckel Act. Assist. Sec., CA	X	Toni Sebastian Dir. P & Policy CA	X	Barb Geiger Office Chief CA	X	Jeff Kincaid RA, Reg. 1 CA		Natalie Green RA, Reg. 2 CA		Joel Odimba RA, Reg. 3 CA	X	Darcey Hancock Acting Field Ops Director, CA	X	Ron Effland Acting DLR Admin CA
X	Meri Waterhouse FP R & R PM CA	X	Becky Taylor DLR PM, CA		Reg. 1 North First Alternate: Megan Caswell	x	Reg. 2 South First Alternate: Daniel J. Garcia		Reg. 2 South Second Alternate: Michael Wittry		Reg. 3 South First Alternate: Sheryl Herd		Reg. 3 South Second Alternate: RC Laird		

❖ Materials included as attachments in email				➤ Decision / additional action required	
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ due date
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Roll Call Bob Hunner				
Old Business					
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ Due Date
1:10 – 1:35	1. Civility/Respect/Communication – Retaliation  Civility - Respect - Communication - Elim	U		Follow-up report on April 12 meeting	Connie Lambert-Eckel, CA
	2. “So you have a new placement” committee report	I		Meeting with Omsbuds Office	Aaron Edwards, 1624 Reg. 2 South
		U			Beth Canfield, FPAWS

❖	<p>3. CATs subgroup regarding OurKids app features</p>  <p>Foster Parent Portal Business Case V6.doc</p> <p>4. CA proposed WAC revisions (RCW 34.05.310)</p> <p>5. Communication with FP regarding court dates</p>  <p>JU03_0500_Dependency ReviewPermanency</p> <p>6. "Re-homing" – Definition needed</p>	U  U		CA will provide the AOC Court hearing template	<p>Anne Hunt, CATS</p> <p>Krissy Wright, DLR</p> <p>Toni Sebastian</p> <p>Toni Sebastian/FPAWS</p> <p>Toni Sebastian</p>
New Business – Each regional area may bring up to two (2) agenda items for discussion/action.					
1:35 – 2:10	<p><b>Children's Administration:</b></p> <p>1. Relative Search Caregiver E-Learning Training development overview.</p> <p>2. Developing a Rights and Responsibilities Document for Caregivers <i>(Draft Sample sent to Team attached below)</i></p>  <p>Rights Responsibilities for FF</p> <p>❖ Review/Discuss documents from other jurisdictions</p>  <p>Draft-WA Caregiver Bill of Rights 4-12-18.</p> <p>❖</p>	I          D			<p>Debi Gomi, CA Relative Search Program Manager</p> <p>Becky Taylor and 1624 Reps</p>
2:10 –	FPAWS:				







From: [Sarber, Stephanie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Geiger, Barbara \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Sebastian, Toni \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Bogart, Michelle \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Meyer, Melanie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Wright, Kristina \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Reeves, Ruben \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Effland, Ron \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Kukas, Kevin \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 1/17/2018 7:26:43 PM

Subject: Re: 1624 Agenda Items

Anne Hunt and Kevin Kukas

Thx!  
Steph

Stephanie J Sarber / ACTING DIRECTOR / Technology Services Division  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
(c) [360-628-6074](tel:360-628-6074) / [Stephanie.Sarber@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Sarber@dshs.wa.gov)  
Transforming Lives

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On: 17 January 2018 09:20, "Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)" <[waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)> wrote:  
The Foster Parent 1624 quarterly video conference meeting is Monday 1/22/18 @ 1:00 – 4:00 pm in room SL-04.

Will you please identify appropriate staff from your section to be at the 1624 video-conference meeting?

I've included some of the text the 1624 representatives have sent in for their regional discussions.

[Meri](#)

---

**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:45 AM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Bogart, Michelle (DSHS/CA) <[BogarML@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:BogarML@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: 1624 Agenda Items from R2N

Hi Ladies,

The 1624 agenda building meeting was held today. Here are some of the topics coming forward to the Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> state video conference meeting:

Old Business: (1:10 – 1:30 pm)

Civility/Respect/Communications

Connie's meeting with 1624 Reps from Reg. 2 South on Permanency legal issues

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002512

Update on Whistleblower use in other jurisdictions  
"So You have a new Placement" class subcommittee report  
Supporting the OurKids mobile App and users

Reg. 1 North – No topics

Reg. 1 South – No topics – resolved in region

Reg. 2 North (1:55 – 2:15 pm)

**1. MEDIATION AVAILABLE FOR STRAINED SW/FP RELATIONSHIPS**

In the meeting with Jennifer Strus regarding retaliation, it was raised that a professional mediator could be called in when a relationship between a social worker and a foster parent has broken down. We'd like to raise this idea once again to ensure it hasn't gotten lost in the hand-off to the new Acting Assistant Secretary.

**2. COMMUNICATION REGARDING COURT DATES**

Once again, communication with the foster parents about court dates was a theme in our region. We heard reports of:

- \* Foster parents not knowing that a hearing was imminent
- \* Completed caregiver reports not being delivered from SW to the court
- \* Hearings occurring w/o any communication to FP about what was decided

I believe we should seek a solution that doesn't rely on social workers or supervisors remembering to do one more thing. How could these notifications be automated?

Reg. 2 South (2:15 – 2:35 pm)

Communication Issues/Timelines related to permanency

Reg. 3 North – No Topics

Reg. 3 South – (2:55 – 3:15 pm)

**1. LACK OF ADEQUATE RESPITE CARE RESOURCES.**

- a. This problem leads to disrupted placements and has become a retention issue. Region 3 South asks that Children's Administration explore ways to better incentivize respite care providers, to include exploring raising the rates paid for respite care. Using family members or friends for respite under "prudent parenting" is not always an option because the children's behaviors require care from a trained, experienced provider.

**2. MANDATE CAREGIVERS RECEIVE 24-48 HOURS NOTICE WHEN MEETINGS OR VISITATION SCHEDULES ARE CHANGED.**

- a. Children's Administration to mandate that caregivers be given 24-48 hours notice when meetings or visitation schedules are changed. Caregivers want to be accommodating, but lack of notice makes this difficult and creates hardships for children and families.

**FPAWS – (3:15 – 3:35 pm)**

- 1. Group discussion on shared Decision Making Meetings:** (SDMM): We would like CAFPT to begin the conversation, that when a shared decision-making meeting involves a private agency, a representative from that agency be at the SDMM. When a decision to offer a relinquishment, or DLR will begin revocation of the foster home's license, we request that a foster parent representative be designated by one of these recognized foster parent groups. FPAWS, Fostering Together Liaison, Foster Washington Mentor or a CAFPT Representative be at the SDMM.
- 2. Rehoming:** Re-Homing Discussion on Adopt. Family placement decisions and impact on - when an adopted home places one of their adopted children in another home, that each case be looked at individually and not be the sole impetus for the foster home's license being questioned. There is a culture among DLR/CPS and Licensing that "Re-Homing" breaks the permanency established by adoption and the character and suitability of the foster parents become reason for relinquishment or revocation.

**CA: New WAC Info – Krissy Wright (335 – 355 pm)**

**Facilitator's wrap up – (3:55 – 4:00 pm)**

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002513



From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 1/17/2018 10:31:03 PM

Subject: RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

Hi Meri...

I certainly can. I did look at the OK policy and like the idea of somehow creating similar strategy (not sure if it would be policy but more like expectations) that allows all staff, upon the time of hire and part of an annual review process to be reminded of this expectation and consequences for not following the expectations. I will share this with DCYF/Ross and whoever the newme is....they may decide to pursue this via policy.

The Whistleblower process is not a good fit. I can explain.

I have a Child and Family Services Advisory Committee meeting in Kent Monday morning and will participate from there on 1624 via VC.

Thanks, Meri. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 17, 2018 9:20 AM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** FW: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

Hi Connie,

The 1624 agenda has a brief old business item on your willingness to look into Whistleblower protections. Have you had a chance to take a look at the Oklahoma Admin. Policy attached below. Would you be able to give a brief comment on this issue.

Thanks

Meri

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 4:56 PM

**To:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA) <[waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)>; Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <[TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

Thank you, Meri. Will take a closer look at this....appreciate you doing the research. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

**From:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2017 3:02 PM

**To:** Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) <[TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:TaylorReS@dshs.wa.gov)>; Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) <[GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:GeigeBL@dshs.wa.gov)>; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) <[SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:SebasTM@dshs.wa.gov)>; Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** RCW 74.13.333 Rights of Foster Parents. 1624 follow up on Retaliation (Civility/Respect/communication)

I told Connie I'd do some research at the October 1624 meeting for any type of Whistleblower provision for caregivers who file a complaint regarding retaliation. "Whistleblower" was not found in any of the materials related to foster parent reports. I did find that Oklahoma has an excellent, updated Admin. Code on this issue.

**1. Oklahoma:**

**340:2-3-38. Investigation of foster parent complaints of retaliation, discrimination, or harassment (Oklahoma Admin. Code Section) has thoroughly developed one page policy revised in 09/17 on these issues with Scope, Procedure, Confidentiality and Prohibition against interference. Included on the document are Instructions to Staff**

<http://www.okdhs.org/library/policy/pages/oac340002030038000.aspx>



From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 1/19/2018 10:12:44 PM

Subject: FW: Retaliation Information

Attachments: Retaliation Informaiton.docx

Here you go. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

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**From:** Craker, Diane (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:29 PM

**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Harder, Diana (DSHS/CA) <[hardedx@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hardedx@dshs.wa.gov)>; Hitchings, Edith (DSHS/CA) <[HitchED@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:HitchED@dshs.wa.gov)>;

Craker, Diane (DSHS/CA) <[CrakeDr@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:CrakeDr@dshs.wa.gov)>; Gunnell, Kim (DSHS/CA) <[MowerKL@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:MowerKL@dshs.wa.gov)>

**Subject:** Retaliation Information

Connie –

Let me know if this is what you needed.

Diane

Quarter	Retaliation Total	Offices
1 <sup>st</sup> quarter	*	*
2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter	*	*
3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter	2	DLR-Out-of-Home licensing R6, Vancouver-Cascade
4 <sup>th</sup> quarter	2	Ellensburg, King- West

\*Did not track retaliation during 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd quarters

## DLR – R6

### Vancouver-Cascade

Licensed foster parent going through revocation process. Foster parent made two complaints. One about the CA staff assigned to the children in her home, and one about the DLR/Licensor, supervisor and the AA.

The children were removed from her home due to numerous concerns from many individuals outside of CA.

Foster parent believed the social worker and supervisor were retaliating against her because she “just doesn’t just put up with this shit,” and “the allegations were piling up on her.” The foster parent was requested to complete a psychological evaluation, but refused.

Review of case by Becky was there was no evidence of retaliation and there were valid concerns that resulted in the removal of the children, and the revocation of her license.

**Ellensburg** – maternal grandmother **RCW 13.50.100** – has placement of child since birth **RCW 13.50.100** with permanency plan of guardianship. SW wants unsupervised visits with child. Child is ten years old and reports fear of her father. Social worker treats grandparents disrespectfully and rudely, and is dismissive of grandparents concerns for child and lack of permanency. Grandparents concerned and fearful that by contacting CR, the social worker will make permanency decisions not in the best interest of the child and will continue with her disrespectful behavior. The grandmother views this as retaliation against the child.

Spoke with AA who followed up with grandparents concerns. The lack of permanency was also brought to the supervisor’s attention.

**King West** - Maternal aunt has placement of child since 1/14 with plan of R AP. New SW has made attempts to remove child through intake reports and having law enforcement called to the home.

Reviewed of Famlink and consulted with supervisor.

Allegations of retaliation are not valid. Maternal aunt has permitted other relatives, including the father, to have unsupervised contact with child. Also, maternal aunt has permitted the child to stay with grandmother and other unidentified individuals.

Per the supervisor, this has been ongoing, and the new social worker has appropriately assessed child safety, and taken action through court, FTDM to have child removed. CASA supports the removal of the child from the maternal aunt.

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
To: [Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
Date: 3/20/2018 12:17:40 AM  
Subject: RE: 1624 meeting in April

Hey Darcey...

I am actually over here on that Monday but I will be in Seattle....have been asked to speak at the National APHSA Conference....at the same time that 1624 starts. I may be able to join by phone as soon as I'm done. Not staying for the whole conference. C.

**Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary**

Children's Administration

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

(O) 360-902-7820 / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

*Transforming Lives*

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**From:** Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2018 2:20 PM  
**To:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) <[LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:LambeCM@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: 1624 meeting in April

They are inviting Ross, Frank Ordway and Vickie Ybarra, and asked to have you there too. They are asking Meri to extend the time. They want to have a discussion about the role of 1624 continuing into the new department. I fear that given the audience, it will generate some new fervor on things. There seemed to be continued heat about lack of notice on placement moves and retaliation. FPAWS is taking the stand that foster home studies are subjective and biased. Frustration that CA never seems to get old business done.

---

**From:** Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2018 11:51 AM  
**To:** Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) <[hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: 1624 meeting in April

Contentious how? Will see what I can do with my schedule. C.

Connie Lambert-Eckel, Acting Assistant Secretary  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
[360-902-7820](tel:360-902-7820) / [lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)  
*Transforming Lives*

---

On: 19 March 2018 09:47,  
"Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA)" <[hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)> wrote:

The next 1624 is going to be contentious. If there was a way for you to be on the phone, it would be helpful. They are asking that you are there.

**Darcey Hancock** / Acting Director of Field Operations  
Children's Administration  
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services  
(O) 360-902-7982 / [hancoda@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:hancoda@dshs.wa.gov)  
*Transforming Lives*

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Hunter, Ross \(DCYF\)](#)

[Moss, Heather \(DEL\)](#)

[Becker, Jody \(DCYF\)](#)

[Ordway, Frank \(DEL\)](#)

Date: 3/21/2018 6:15:02 PM

Subject: 1624

Attachments: Future of Foster Care Advocacy.pdf

Greetings...

If you have not already been invited to the April 1624 (Statewide Caregiver Consultation Team meeting). This meeting is held via VC across the state. Details will follow as the invitations are sent to you. The meeting is typically from 1-4. The reps are requesting your presence and an extra hour of 'executive time' between all of you (including me) and the regional reps. I have no doubt they are keenly interested in how things will proceed with the DCYF and want to get their concerns, goals and needs in front of you before the transition (aka Singularity) occurs.

I received the attached from one of our RAs. I have seen this before but I believe it will at least be part of the agenda for the meeting. Please let me know if you need anything else by way of background prior to this meeting. My thanks, C.

Connie Lambert-Eckel

Acting Assistant Secretary/Acting Chief of Staff

Children's Administration/DSHS

[lambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

360-902-7821



# Children's Administration Foster Parent Consultation Team (1624)

## Summary of Current Mission, Projects and Future Directions

March 2018

### Current Mission Statement

Strive to improve the wellbeing and protection of all children in foster and relative care, and to enhance and strengthen services for children and caregivers in the state of Washington.

### Current Working Group Priorities | 2016-2018

- I. **Use independent, well constructed survey and data analysis to evaluate key barriers to foster parent retention:** Given the retention crisis, when elected as a 1624 we decided that prior to picking a new project or focus, we would release a survey to current foster parents to get some concrete data on what specific factors would be "game changers" in making foster parents decide to renew their license. My background as a research scientist made me passionate about having this be data driven rather than spending time on retention projects that may not give us the level of impact needed to address the level of retention crisis. To our surprise almost 900 foster parents participated in the survey and priorities for retention were very clear. The powerpoint summarizes some of the main results of statistical analyses of that data.

<https://drive.google.com> RCW 13.50.100

The projects described below were selected based on results of this data which indicated that retention and recruitment of foster parents depended most heavily on addressing these issues.

- A. **Examining Timelines to Permanency:** While there are many factors that impact long term outcomes of children in care, the number of placements and placement disruptions children experience are consistently cited predictors across the last 10 years of meta-analyses. Caregivers in the survey reported increasingly experiencing long-term, extended placements as a rule rather than the exception. The annual AOC report (<http://www.courts.wa.gov/subsite/wscsr/docs/DTR2016.pdf>) indicates numerous areas of improvement in meeting case timelines; however, the report identifies significant delays in achieving permanency due to lags in the second half of the case. Specific causes for delays are only hypothesized. There is no existing data on the timelines for each sub-step in the second half of cases. This leads to many passionate conversations about achieving permanency faster, but without identified bottlenecks we do not know where to focus resources. Our goal is to collaboratively gather quality assurance data on the current workflow in the second half of cases so that policy decisions are recommended based on data in support of the well being of children rather than hypotheses based on anecdotes and the natural biases that each individual brings to the conversation.

1. **Create workflow and data questions:** We met with numerous social workers, area administrators and representatives from CA to identify the substeps within the workflow from 15 months to establishing permanency. This workflow is detailed here:

**2. Create quality assurance project based in collaboration and data**

**transparency:** DCYF's Office of Innovation has suggested that this appears to be a quality assurance project. Connie Lambert-Eckel has created a working group consisting of various CA representatives, AAG representatives, and caregivers. This group last met at the end of January 2018 at which time a pilot quality assurance and data collection plan were outlined. The follow up meeting is scheduled for March 2018.

**B. Preventing Long Term Placement Disruptions:** Reunification is the goal. Regardless of private agency or state license, families share the experience in feeling complicit in re-traumatizing a foster child when, *if reunification fails*, that child is moved to another placement after having been part of that family for years. This grief and doubt can cause them to leave the system and share their stories with other potential foster families. It is not their own grief, but the feeling of not acting in the best interest of the child that ruminates. Given the foster family retention crisis in WA state, foster care advocates are uniting behind this cause so that efforts are aligned around highest priority issues. Our workgroups are focusing on conducting a comprehensive literature review of long term placement stability and disruptions in kinship and nonrelative care. There is established research on permanency in kin and non-relative care. Kin placements are increasingly appropriately utilized for children in care, though significant barriers to timely identification of kin are commonly discussed by CA providers. There is also well established research on the detriments of placement changes/instability. To date, there appears to be limited to no data on (a) the impact of placement changes for children that have been in a long-term foster placement, and (b) Washington's current timelines for conducting kin searches for children in care. Despite the nuance in the research findings and the questions still unanswered--the state of research on these topics seems to be oversimplified and overgeneralized in our conversations in the foster care community. Our hope is that a nuanced understanding of data will unite all parties in supporting evidence-based policy focused on the child's well being. Please join us in educated advocacy by reviewing the following peer-reviewed scientific literature (please note that wording has not been changed from original articles; these are direct excerpts from research findings).

**1. Next steps:**

- a) As of January 2018, the relative search unit reports that they have been asked to push their efforts on kin identification within the first 30 days.
- b) We are currently working with kin groups and the relative search unit to increase training for caregivers and social workers around the relative search process.

- c) Collect and analyze data regarding current kin identification process (much like the timelines to permanency workflow process described above).
- d) Increase collection and distribution of quality research regarding the impact of placement disruptions to create educated advocacy, policy making and court rulings.
- e) Collaborate with universities that have published related meta-analyses in the last 5 years to replicate research using their data to look at additional variables of interest including time in placement prior to placement changes.

**C. Increasing Transparency:** Given the extended time that many foster families have children in their care, it is a significant burden to expect families to attend all court hearings as their main method of ensuring their voice is heard and that they receive relevant updates on issues in the case that impact the child in their care; this is particularly problematic given that caregivers take time off of work often to experience repeated court continuances. Moreover, given current social worker turnover and the heavy caseloads workers face, expecting social workers to take on adequately updating foster parents is an unsustainable solution. We are currently working with CA on the following proposals:

- 1. Electronic submission of court reports
- 2. Creation of caregiver court summaries that would include the following relevant information:
  - a) Progress
  - b) Compliance
  - c) Visitation changes
  - d) Primary plan changes
  - e) Continuance and reason
  - f) Next court date

**II. Retaliation:** Connie Lambert-Eckel has requested that the 1624 team provide a proposal on a caregiver mediation process. We are in the process of developing a survey to better understand current barriers and needs in conflict resolution process.

**III. Facilitating educated, data driven advocacy and policy:** Representatives partnered with Fostering Change WA to host the Together We Care rally on January 17. The rally focused on delivering a unified message of support for child-centric legislation that supported clear timelines to permanency and the establishment of two task force groups- Timelines to Permanency in Dependency Cases Task Force and Bonding and Attachment in Children in Care Task Force. It is our vision that these groups will be under the direction of the Department for Children, Youth, and Families and in partnership with the Children's Administration Foster Parent Consultation Team and the Foster Parents Association of Washington State. These task force groups will be comprised of Children's Administration staff, foster parents, relative caregivers, biological parents, former foster youth, research and data professionals in the field of social work, and organizations in Washington that are impacted by the foster care system. More information can be

found here: [Fostering Change Rally Research- Why it Matters](#) and [Fostering Change Legislative Letter](#).

### **Issues passed on to CA following 1624 input**

1. **Childcare:** We know that there are ongoing discussions about the childcare crisis and how this relates to a lack of foster families able to take 0-5 age placements. Foster families work, and there is no place for the kids during typical working hours.
  - a. We have submitted the suggestion of communicating with Department of Early Learning (DEL) about allowing the capacity to increase by one (1) for emergent foster placements while families are on wait lists for longer term childcare options. We are hoping that our data and analyses will help inform this push.
  - b. Data from two sources: We have informal reports from many families stating that finding childcare placements is a significant burden. While we have these informal reports, we need actual data on the shortage despite foster parents being giving a list of providers. We have volunteers ready to analyze the data, but we need the data from the following sources.
    - i. DEL data: We need a list of all licensed childcare providers to match up with our list of 0-5 age children that need care. We would like two lists:
      1. A list of all licensed providers broken down by region.
      2. A sub-list of all licensed providers that currently accept DHS payments.
    - ii. CA data: We need a list of children in care by age and by region (already provided through last regional meeting)
  - c. CA support for foster parents with childcare search: It is a significant burden for FP's to call a large number of childcare providers on the list and engage in back-and-forth phone/email dialogue, set-up walk-through appointments and complete paperwork when a new placement has just arrived. When accepting a child, we need CA's support in finding childcare that goes beyond a list of numbers to call.
  - d. Emergency capacity increases: Even when families do call all of the childcare facilities from the list that accept vouchers, the vast majority either have a 6-9 month wait list and/or say that they do accept vouchers but are at capacity to accept more children on vouchers. This requires some creative brainstorming with DEL.



## **Proposals for the Future of the 1624 Foster Parent Consultation Team (1624)** **in the Department of Children, Youth, and Families**

### **Proposed Vision Statement**

Reduce trauma for children in Washington State foster care – Reduce trauma for all

### **Proposed Mission Statement**

Use a data driven and evidence based approach to systematically break down top concerns identified by caregivers with the foster care system, address systemic issues contributing to foster child re-traumatization and the caregiver retention (kin and foster) crisis in Washington State.

**There is an urgent need for more unified, structured, formalized, and data driven avenue for caregiver support.**

1. Formalize the communication process between representatives and caregivers. Currently this process looks different in every region. Representatives need direct access to caregivers in order to communicate effectively and in real time. Additionally region meetings need to be systemized through a coordinated effort with the Family to Family Unit. Lastly a centralized social media site will help increase the awareness of the team.
2. Update the Charter to include:
  - a. Regional changes
  - b. Formalize the chair selection process to include elected rather than designated positions
  - c. Add additional representatives from affiliated organizations such as the Attorney General, CASA, Juvenile Rehabilitation, etc.
  - d. Updated Department name as needed
  - e. Consideration of formal position description
  - f. Consideration of focused committees
3. Secure funding that will support the data-centric approach. Avenues of funding include a foundation grant and legislative support. This funding will allow for an updated database systems, allow representatives to communicate with caregivers, and the creation of a dedicated website to share findings.
4. Formalize the elevation of caregiver concerns. Through a professionalized system caregivers would be able to share real time feedback on their top concerns, and add to discussion of ongoing issues. This would allow us to address issues before they become issues that lead to retention.
5. Use this group as a place where various caregiver groups are unified under one round-table conversation. We all bring a unique viewpoint, which needs to be represented for real and substantial solutions.
6. Formalize the communication process with the Legislature. Representatives can serve as experts to testify before committee members as well as advocates for systemic change.

7. With multiple statutes and policies impacting our work, access to legal professionals to answer basic legal questions would be helpful. This can be done through a partnership with the Office of the Attorney General.
8. Utilize representatives as a sounding board for Department as they update process and policy. Representatives understand the concerns of caregivers and can accurately communicate their voice.
9. Formalized the relationship with retention and recruitment contracts to further support caregivers. Through direct and planned communication both groups will be able to effectively advocate.
10. Create a formalized research team within 1624 which includes collaboration with DCYF and data sharing agreements with Partners for Our Children.

From: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Aaron Edwards](#)  
[Alla Mishin](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[AMY GARDNER](#)  
[Beth Canfield](#)  
[Bogart, Michelle \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Canfield, Mike](#)  
[Christiansen, Michelle A \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Chung, Xuan \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Churchwell, Jason \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Corrales, Marissa \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Daniel Garcia](#)  
[Devoy, Peggy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Effland, Ron \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Fernandez, Arthur \(UW Alliance\)](#)  
[Geiger, Barbara \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Green, Natalie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hannon, Denise E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
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[LaBelle, Nicole \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lawlor, Yen \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Leeann Marshel](#)  
[Lisa Page](#)  
[Luke Wickham](#)  
[Lynn, Debbie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[March, John \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Marzest, Yolanda](#)  
[McKeown, Pamela \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Megan Caswell](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[Melissa Russell](#)  
[Michael Tyers](#)  
[Michael Wittry](#)  
[Morrison, Deanna \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Needham, David A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Odimba, Joel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pemberton, Jon C. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Perez, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pritchard, Darla E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[R.C. Laird](#)  
[Ramsay, Kathy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Ray Deck 3](#)  
[Ray Deck III](#)  
[Rhodes, Chris \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Rissone, Joseph \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
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[Robinson, Lynn \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Sara Robitaille \(SRobitaille@coordinatedcarehealth.com\)](#)  
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[Shanna Alvarez](#)  
[Sheryl Herd](#)  
[Silvia Zarate](#)  
[Stephanie Vombaur](#)  
[Tacchini, Jeanine M \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Taylor, Rebecca S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Teena Williams](#)  
[Teeter, Anita \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Thomas, Joyce \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tosti-Lane, Linda \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tovar, Maria D \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Turner, Patricia A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tyler Helbach](#)  
[Van Veen, Hannahlyn J. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Victoria O'Banion \[RCW 13.50.100\]@gmail.com](#)  
[Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Welch, Maribel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Wright, Kristina \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 4/13/2018 2:14:39 AM

Subject: CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018

Attachments: CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018.docx

d\plainHello Everyone,

d\plain

d\plainAttached is the agenda for the CAFPT (1624) Monday, April 16, 1:- 5:00 p.m. video conference meeting. Please have your video conference sites linked in early as we will begin the meeting right at 1:00 p.m. Log-in information for the video conference and for those who must call in via a phone line are below.

d\plain

d\plainConference ID: [RCW 42.56.230(5)] and Access Code [RCW 42.56.230(5)]

d\plainPhone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN: [RCW 42.56.230(5)]

d\plain

d\plainAll handouts are embedded as links in the agenda document.

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainIf you have questions, please contact Meri Waterhouse at: [waterML@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterML@dshs.wa.gov) or at 360-902-8035 before 11:00 a.m. At that time I will be in a meeting and unavailable until our video conference meeting begins. If you have an urgent need regarding the meeting after 11:00 please contact our administrative assistant, Christie Boman for help at: [boydcha@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:boydcha@dshs.wa.gov) or at: 360-902-7653.

d\plain

d\plainThanks everyone for the work you do to support our caregivers!

d\plain

d\plain

**d\plainMeri Waterhouse** / Program Manager / Foster Care Recruitment & Retention

d\plainChildren's Administration

d\plainWashington State Department of Social and Health Services

d\plain1115 Washington St., S.E. / PO Box 45710

d\plainOlympia, WA 98504-5710

d\plain360-902-8035 / [waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)

d\plainTransforming Lives

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainConsider becoming a foster parent – kids from your community who have been abused and neglected need your help. Will it be easy? Not every day. . . Will it be worth it? **Absolutely!**

[www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents)

d\plain

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# CAFPT (1624) VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

April 16, 2018


1:00 – 4:00 pm



**Conference ID:** RCW 42.56.230(5) **and Access Code:** RCW 42.56.230(5)

**Phone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN:** RCW 42.56.230(5)


## Team Members:

X	Victoria O'Banion Reg. 1 N.		Alla Mishin Reg. 1 N.		Silvia Zarate Reg. 1 S.		Vacant Reg. 1 S.	X	Ray Deck Reg. 2 N.	X	Lisa Page Reg. 2 N.	X	Aaron Edwards Reg. 2 S.	X	Shanna Alvarez Reg. 2 S.
X	Teena Williams Reg. 3 N.	X	Krista Piger Reg. 3 N.	X	Amy Gardner Reg. 3 S.		Stephanie Vombaur Reg. 3 S.	X	Beth Canfield FPAWS	X	Mike Canfield FPAWS				
	Connie Lambert-Eckel Act. Assist. Sec., CA	X	Toni Sebastian Dir. P & Policy CA	X	Barb Geiger Office Chief CA	X	Jeff Kincaid RA, Reg. 1 CA		Natalie Green RA, Reg. 2 CA		Joel Odimba RA, Reg. 3 CA	X	Darcey Hancock Acting Field Ops Director, CA	X	Ron Effland Acting DLR Admin CA
X	Meri Waterhouse FP R & R PM CA	X	Becky Taylor DLR PM, CA		Reg. 1 North First Alternate: Megan Caswell	x	Reg. 2 South First Alternate: Daniel J. Garcia		Reg. 2 South Second Alternate: Michael Wittry		Reg. 3 South First Alternate: Sheryl Herd		Reg. 3 South Second Alternate: RC Laird		

❖ Materials included as attachments in email				➤ Decision / additional action required	
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ due date
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Roll Call Bob Hunner				
Old Business					
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ Due Date
1:10 – 1:35	1. Civility/Respect/Communication – Retaliation  Civility - Respect - Communication - Elim	U		Follow-up report on April 12 meeting  Meeting with Omsbuds Office	Connie Lambert-Eckel, CA  Aaron Edwards, 1624 Reg. 2 South
	❖ 2. “So you have a new placement” committee report	I  U			Beth Canfield, FPAWS

	<p>3. CATs subgroup regarding OurKids app features</p> <p>4. CA proposed WAC revisions (RCW 34.05.310)</p> <p>5. Communication with FP regarding court dates</p> <p>“Re-homing” – Definition sought</p>	<p>U</p> <p>U</p>		<p>CA will develop a template for court reports to share with AOC</p>	<p>Anne Hunt, CATS</p> <p>Krissy Wright, DLR</p> <p>Toni Sebastian</p> <p>Toni Sebastian/FPAWS</p>
New Business – Each regional area may bring up to two (2) agenda items for discussion/action.					
1:35 – 2:10	<p><b>Children’s Administration:</b></p> <p>1. Relative Search Caregiver E-Learning Training development overview.</p> <p>2. Developing a Rights and Responsibilities Document for Caregivers <i>(Draft Sample sent to Team attached below)</i></p> <p> Rights Responsibilities for FF</p> <p>❖ Review/Discuss documents from other jurisdictions</p> <p> Draft-WA Caregiver Bill of Rights 4-12-18.</p> <p>❖</p>	<p>I</p> <p>D</p>			<p>Debi Gomi, CA Relative Search Program Manager</p> <p>Becky Taylor and 1624 Reps</p>
2:10 – 2:30	<p><b>FPAWS:</b></p> <p>1. Moves without 5-day notices – Administrative Moves, Moves “not in the child’s best interest” – Is there a report that tracks 5-day notices?</p> <p>CA Practice and Procedures Guide:</p>	<p>D</p>			<p>Mike and Beth Canfield</p>



	<p>Summary: Current Mission, Projects &amp; Future Directions (April 2018)</p> <p><a href="https://docs.google.com/">https://docs.google.com/</a></p> <p>RCW 13.50.100</p> <p>RCW 13.50.100</p>				
3:30 – 3:50	<p><b>Region 3 North:</b> Lack of daycare support for working foster parents with infants placed in their homes. Resources for infant spots in daycare facilities are limited. Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate increase for in-home foster parents that is comparable to licensed daycare centers.</li> </ul> <p>❖  child care rates - day care centers 2018.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More training for child care providers on how to support infants born drug affected.</li> <li>Increase licensed providers who can provide in-home daycare.</li> </ul>	D			Reg. 3 North Representatives Teena Williams Krista Piger
	<b>Region 3 South:</b> No Issues this quarter				
3:50 – 4:00	<b>Break</b>				
4:00- 5:00	Meet with DCYF and CA leadership				

**Next Video Conference Meeting: Monday, July 16, 2018; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

From: [Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
To: [Harder, Diana \(DSHS/EXEC\) \(hardedx@dshs.wa.gov\)](#)  
Date: 4/13/2018 3:36:06 PM  
Subject: FW: CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018  
Attachments: CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018.docx

d\plainOkay...

d\plainI am on this agenda for the exact time that I will be speaking at the AAICPC Conference in Seattle. I will do my best to join the 1624 call when I am done but Darcey is going to need to lead this. I think Aaron Edwards can talk about the 'civility' piece quite well since we discussed it at our sub group meeting yesterday. C.

d\plain

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainConnie Lambert-Eckel

d\plainActing Assistant Secretary/Acting Chief of Staff

d\plainChildren's Administration/DSHS

[d\plainlambecm@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lambecm@dshs.wa.gov)

d\plain360-902-7821

d\plain

**d\plainFrom:** Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA)

**Sent:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 7:15 PM

**To:** Aaron Edwards ; Alla Mishin [RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com](mailto:RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com) ; AMY GARDNER ; Beth Canfield ; Bogart, Michelle (DSHS/CA) ; Canfield, Mike ; Christiansen, Michelle A (DSHS/CA) ; Chung, Xuan (DSHS/CA) ; Churchwell, Jason (DSHS/CA) ; Corrales, Marissa (DSHS/CA) ; Daniel Garcia ; Devoy, Peggy (DSHS/CA) ; Effland, Ron (DSHS/CA) ; Fernandez, Arthur (UW Alliance) ; Geiger, Barbara (DSHS/CA) ; Green, Natalie (DSHS/CA) ; Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) ; Hannon, Denise E (DSHS/CA) ; Hunt, Anne (DSHS/CA) ; Hurd, Dorene (DSHS/CA) ; Jean Brownell ; Jennings, Robin S. (DSHS/CA) ; Johnson, Bolesha R. (DSHS/CA) ; Johnson, Silvia (DSHS/CA) ; Kim Fordham ([kfordham@ewu.edu](mailto:kfordham@ewu.edu)) ; Kincaid, Jeff (DSHS/CA) ; LaBelle, Nicole (DSHS/CA) ; Lambert-Eckel, Connie (DSHS/CA) ; Lawlor, Yen (DSHS/CA) ; Leeann Marshal ; Lisa Page ; Luke Wickham ; Lynn, Debbie (DSHS/CA) ; March, John (DSHS/CA) ; Marzest, Yolanda ; McKeown, Pamela (DSHS/CA) ; Megan Caswell [RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com](mailto:RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com) ; Melissa Russell ; Michael Tyers ; Michael Wittry ; Morrison, Deanna (DSHS/CA) ; Needham, David A. (DSHS/CA) ; Odimba, Joel (DSHS/CA) ; Pemberton, Jon C. (DSHS/CA) ; Perez, Dorene (DSHS/CA) ; Pritchard, Darla E (DSHS/CA) ; R.C. Laird ; Ramsay, Kathy (DSHS/CA) ; Ray Deck 3 ; Ray Deck III ; Rhodes, Chris (DSHS/CA) ; Rissone, Joseph (DSHS/CA) ; Robert Hunner ; Robinson, Lynn (DSHS/CA) ; Sara Robitaille ([SRobitaille@coordinatedcarehealth.com](mailto:SRobitaille@coordinatedcarehealth.com)) ; Sebastian, Toni (DSHS/CA) ; Shala Crow ; Shanna Alvarez ; Sheryl Herd ; Silvia Zarate ; Stephanie Vombaur ; Tacchini, Jeanine M (DSHS/CA) ; Taylor, Rebecca S. (DSHS/CA) ; Teena Williams ; Teeter, Anita (DSHS/CA) ; Thomas, Joyce (DSHS/CA) ; Tosti-Lane, Linda (DSHS/CA) ; Tovar, Maria D (DSHS/CA) ; Turner, Patricia A. (DSHS/CA) ; Tyler Helbach ; Van Veen, Hannahlyn J. (DSHS/CA) ; Victoria O'Banion [RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com](mailto:RCW 13.50.100@gmail.com) ; Waterhouse, Meri (DSHS/CA) ; Welch, Maribel (DSHS/CA) ; Wright, Kristina (DSHS/CA)

**Cc:** Boman, Christie (DSHS/CA)

**Subject:** CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018

d\plain

d\plainHello Everyone,

d\plain

d\plainAttached is the agenda for the CAFPT (1624) Monday, April 16, 1:- 5:00 p.m. video conference meeting. Please have your video conference sites linked in early as we will begin the meeting right at 1:00 p.m. Log-in information for the video conference and for those who must call in via a phone line are below.

d\plain

**d\plainConference ID:** [RCW 42.56.230\(5\)](#) **and Access Code** [RCW 42.56.230\(5\)](#)

**d\plainPhone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN:** [RCW 42.56.230\(5\)](#)

d\plain

d\plainAll handouts are embedded as links in the agenda document.

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainIf you have questions, please contact Meri Waterhouse at: [waterML@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterML@dshs.wa.gov) or at 360-902-8035 before 11:00 a.m. At that time I will be in a meeting and unavailable until our video conference meeting begins. If you have an urgent need regarding the meeting after 11:00 please contact our administrative assistant, Christie Boman for help at: [boydcha@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:boydcha@dshs.wa.gov) or at: 360-902-7653.

d\plain

d\plainThanks everyone for the work you do to support our caregivers!

d\plain

d\plain

**d\plainMeri Waterhouse** / Program Manager / Foster Care Recruitment & Retention

d\plainChildren's Administration

d\plainWashington State Department of Social and Health Services

d\plain1115 Washington St., S.E. / PO Box 45710

d\plainOlympia, WA 98504-5710

d\plain360-902-8035 / [waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)

*d\plainTransforming Lives*

d\plain

d\plain

d\plainConsider becoming a foster parent – kids from your community who have been abused and neglected need your help. Will it be easy? Not every day. . Will it be worth it? **Absolutely!** [www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents)

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**d\plain**



# CAFPT (1624) VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

April 16, 2018


1:00 – 4:00 pm



**Conference ID:** RCW 42.56.230(5) **and Access Code:** RCW 42.56.230(5)

**Phone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN:** RCW 42.56.230(5)


## Team Members:

X	Victoria O'Banion Reg. 1 N.		Alla Mishin Reg. 1 N.		Silvia Zarate Reg. 1 S.		Vacant Reg. 1 S.	X	Ray Deck Reg. 2 N.	X	Lisa Page Reg. 2 N.	X	Aaron Edwards Reg. 2 S.	X	Shanna Alvarez Reg. 2 S.
X	Teena Williams Reg. 3 N.	X	Krista Piger Reg. 3 N.	X	Amy Gardner Reg. 3 S.		Stephanie Vombaur Reg. 3 S.	X	Beth Canfield FPAWS	X	Mike Canfield FPAWS				
	Connie Lambert-Eckel Act. Assist. Sec., CA	X	Toni Sebastian Dir. P & Policy CA	X	Barb Geiger Office Chief CA	X	Jeff Kincaid RA, Reg. 1 CA		Natalie Green RA, Reg. 2 CA		Joel Odimba RA, Reg. 3 CA	X	Darcey Hancock Acting Field Ops Director, CA	X	Ron Effland Acting DLR Admin CA
X	Meri Waterhouse FP R & R PM CA	X	Becky Taylor DLR PM, CA		Reg. 1 North First Alternate: Megan Caswell	x	Reg. 2 South First Alternate: Daniel J. Garcia		Reg. 2 South Second Alternate: Michael Wittry		Reg. 3 South First Alternate: Sheryl Herd		Reg. 3 South Second Alternate: RC Laird		

❖ Materials included as attachments in email				➤ Decision / additional action required	
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ due date
1:00 – 1:10	Welcome/Roll Call Bob Hunner				
Old Business					
Time	Agenda Item & Presenter	Purpose D – Decision U – Update I – Information	Outcome A – Approved NS – Not Supported T – Tabled	Follow-up task(s)	Who is responsible/ Due Date
1:10 – 1:35	1. Civility/Respect/Communication – Retaliation  Civility - Respect - Communication - Elim	U		Follow-up report on April 12 meeting  Meeting with Omsbuds Office	Connie Lambert-Eckel, CA  Aaron Edwards, 1624 Reg. 2 South
	❖ 2. “So you have a new placement” committee report	I  U			Beth Canfield, FPAWS

	<p>3. CATs subgroup regarding OurKids app features</p> <p>4. CA proposed WAC revisions (RCW 34.05.310)</p> <p>5. Communication with FP regarding court dates</p> <p>“Re-homing” – Definition sought</p>	<p>U</p> <p>U</p>		<p>CA will develop a template for court reports to share with AOC</p>	<p>Anne Hunt, CATS</p> <p>Krissy Wright, DLR</p> <p>Toni Sebastian</p> <p>Toni Sebastian/FPAWS</p>
New Business – Each regional area may bring up to two (2) agenda items for discussion/action.					
1:35 – 2:10	<p><b>Children’s Administration:</b></p> <p>1. Relative Search Caregiver E-Learning Training development overview.</p> <p>2. Developing a Rights and Responsibilities Document for Caregivers <i>(Draft Sample sent to Team attached below)</i></p> <p> Rights Responsibilities for FF</p> <p>❖ Review/Discuss documents from other jurisdictions</p> <p> Draft-WA Caregiver Bill of Rights 4-12-18.</p> <p>❖</p>	<p>I</p> <p>D</p>			<p>Debi Gomi, CA Relative Search Program Manager</p> <p>Becky Taylor and 1624 Reps</p>
2:10 – 2:30	<p><b>FPAWS:</b></p> <p>1. Moves without 5-day notices – Administrative Moves, Moves “not in the child’s best interest” – Is there a report that tracks 5-day notices?</p> <p>CA Practice and Procedures Guide:</p>	<p>D</p>			<p>Mike and Beth Canfield</p>



	<p>Summary: Current Mission, Projects &amp; Future Directions (April 2018)</p> <p><a href="https://docs.google.com">https://docs.google.com</a></p> <p>RCW 13.50.100</p> <p>RCW 13.50.100</p>				
3:30 – 3:50	<p><b>Region 3 North:</b> Lack of daycare support for working foster parents with infants placed in their homes. Resources for infant spots in daycare facilities are limited. Suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rate increase for in-home foster parents that is comparable to licensed daycare centers.</li> </ul> <p>❖  child care rates - day care centers 2018.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More training for child care providers on how to support infants born drug affected.</li> <li>Increase licensed providers who can provide in-home daycare.</li> </ul>	D			Reg. 3 North Representatives Teena Williams Krista Piger
	<b>Region 3 South:</b> No Issues this quarter				
3:50 – 4:00	<b>Break</b>				
4:00- 5:00	Meet with DCYF and CA leadership				

**Next Video Conference Meeting: Monday, July 16, 2018; 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

From: [Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [Aaron Edwards](#)  
[Alla Mishin](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[AMY GARDNER](#)  
[Beth Canfield](#)  
[Bogart, Michelle \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Canfield, Mike](#)  
[Christiansen, Michelle A \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Chung, Xuan \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Churchwell, Jason \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Corrales, Marissa \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Daniel Garcia](#)  
[Devoy, Peggy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Effland, Ron \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Fernandez, Arthur \(UW Alliance\)](#)  
[Geiger, Barbara \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Green, Natalie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hannon, Denise E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hunt, Anne \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Hurd, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Jean Brownell](#)  
[Jennings, Robin S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Johnson, Bolesha R. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Johnson, Silvia \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Kim Fordham \(kfordham@ewu.edu\)](#)  
[Kincaid, Jeff \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[LaBelle, Nicole \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lambert-Eckel, Connie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Lawlor, Yen \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Leeann Marshel](#)  
[Lisa Page](#)  
[Luke Wickham](#)  
[Lynn, Debbie \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[March, John \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Marzest, Yolanda](#)  
[McKeown, Pamela \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Megan Caswell](#) <sup>RCW 13.50.100</sup> [@gmail.com](#))  
[Melissa Russell](#)  
[Michael Tyers](#)  
[Michael Wittry](#)  
[Morrison, Deanna \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Needham, David A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Odimba, Joel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pemberton, Jon C. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Perez, Dorene \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Pritchard, Darla E \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

[R.C. Laird](#)  
[Ramsay, Kathy \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Ray Deck 3](#)  
[Ray Deck III](#)  
[Rhodes, Chris \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Rissone, Joseph \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Robert Hunner](#)  
[Robinson, Lynn \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Sara Robitaille \(SRobitaille@coordinatedcarehealth.com\)](#)  
[Sebastian, Toni \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Shala Crow](#)  
[Shanna Alvarez](#)  
[Sheryl Herd](#)  
[Silvia Zarate](#)  
[Stephanie Vombaur](#)  
[Tacchini, Jeanine M \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Taylor, Rebecca S. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Teena Williams](#)  
[Teeter, Anita \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Thomas, Joyce \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tosti-Lane, Linda \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tovar, Maria D \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Turner, Patricia A. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Tyler Helbach](#)  
[Van Veen, Hannahlyn J. \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Victoria O'Banion](#) RCW 13.50.100 [@gmail.com](#)  
[Waterhouse, Meri \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Welch, Maribel \(DSHS/CA\)](#)  
[Wright, Kristina \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 4/13/2018 6:14:45 PM

Subject: AMENDED CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018

Attachments: AMENDED CAFPT (1624) Agenda April 2018.docx

d\plainPlease see the amended agenda; two documents have been embedded in the agenda document.  
d\plain

Old Business: #3: Foster Parent Portal Business Case  
d\plain

Old Business #5: AOC Dependency Court Order Template

d\plain

d\plainThank You,

d\plain

d\plain

**d\plainMeri Waterhouse** / Program Manager / Foster Care Recruitment & Retention

d\plainChildren's Administration

d\plainWashington State Department of Social and Health Services

d\plain1115 Washington St., S.E. / PO Box 45710

d\plainOlympia, WA 98504-5710

d\plain360-902-8035 / [waterml@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:waterml@dshs.wa.gov)

*d\plainTransforming Lives*

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d\plain

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002541



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[www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/fosterparents)

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# CAFPT (1624) VIDEO CONFERENCE MEETING

April 16, 2018


1:00 – 4:00 pm

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**Phone access only - call: 360-902-7510 PIN:** RCW 42.56.230(5)

## Team Members:

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X	Teena Williams Reg. 3 N.	X	Krista Piger Reg. 3 N.	X	Amy Gardner Reg. 3 S.		Stephanie Vombaur Reg. 3 S.	X	Beth Canfield FPAWS	X	Mike Canfield FPAWS				
	Connie Lambert- Eckel Act. Assist. Sec., CA	X	Toni Sebastian Dir. P & Policy CA	X	Barb Geiger Office Chief CA	X	Jeff Kincaid RA, Reg. 1 CA		Natalie Green RA, Reg. 2 CA		Joel Odimba RA, Reg. 3 CA	X	Darcey Hancock Acting Field Ops Director, CA	X	Ron Effland Acting DLR Admin CA
X	Meri Waterhouse FP R & R PM CA	X	Becky Taylor DLR PM, CA		Reg. 1 North First Alternate: Megan Caswell	x	Reg. 2 South First Alternate: Daniel J. Garcia		Reg. 2 South Second Alternate: Michael Wittry		Reg. 3 South First Alternate: Sheryl Herd		Reg. 3 South Second Alternate: RC Laird		

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	2. “So you have a new placement” committee report	I		Meeting with Omsbuds Office	Aaron Edwards, 1624 Reg. 2 South
		U			Beth Canfield, FPAWS







From: [Hancock, Darcey \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

To: [McKeown, Pamela \(DSHS/CA\)](#)

Date: 2/3/2017 9:07:42 PM

Subject: FW: FYI

Attachments: DSHS- Children's Administration Issue that Needs to be Brought to Your Attention  
Constituent Issue-Children's Administration/Foster Parents and Retaliation at the  
Expense of a Little Boy  
Constituent Issue-Children's Administration/Foster Parents and Retaliation at the  
Expense of a Little Boy (1)  
Constituent Issue-Children's Administration/Foster Parents and Retaliation at the  
Expense of a Little Boy (2)  
PENDING CASE- **RCW 13.50.100**

As per the message I just left, **RCW 13.50.100**

[REDACTED]

---

From: Green, Natalie (DSHS/CA)

Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 12:42 PM

To: Hancock, Darcey (DSHS/CA) <hancoda@dshs.wa.gov>

Subject: FYI

Connie wanted me to pass this on – so you are aware of what this foster mom is doing.



From: RCW 42.56.250(4) RCW 42.56.250(4)@gmail.com>

To: Lashway, Patricia (DSHS)

Date: 2/3/2017 8:23:44 PM

Subject: DSHS- Children's Administration Issue that Needs to be Brought to Your Attention

Attachments: Court Report (1).pdf  
Court Report 2.pdf

Hello Ms. Lashway,

As you are well aware due to the move to legislative fixes, there is a foster parent crisis. There are not enough willing homes. But it is no secret why that is the case. Foster parents have no rights, and there are bad apple SWs who use, abuse, and destroy us. This is not always the case, however. We have worked with excellent ones! But, there are enough that FPAWs is attempting to pass legislation to curb retaliatory measures.

Here is our story of being the victims at the hands of selfish, vindictive, retaliatory SWs who choose not to act in the best interest of the child, but instead act in their own interest. We held them accountable. We complained too much when they did not act in the child's best interest. So, they decided to try to get rid of us, but all at the expense of [REDACTED] Let me tell you the story.

Let me introduce to the wonderful family and child you are going to hear about:



The adorable little 5 year old boy pictured above is dining without assistance. He has been in care for about a year and a half now. His needs are not being addressed by his SWs. In fact his case procedural history is absolutely outrageous. He needs someone outside of DSHS-CA to stand up for his rights and his needs. We thought you would be the right person for the job, as it is abundantly clear from your website that you care about your constituents and you care about foster children's rights!

Child's name: [REDACTED]

Social Worker: Erin Yanus

Social Worker Supervisor: Desiree Rollins

Office Administrator: Cleveland King (Kent Office)

A little history on [REDACTED] case:

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002548

He was placed in our home in October 2015 with his little brother [RCW 13.]. His little sister [RCW 13.] was placed with another foster family. We coordinated visitation and became good friends with this other foster family. [RCW 13.] was able to see all his siblings regularly.

[RCW 13.] came to our home filthy, only about 10-20 words, not potty trained, very developmentally delayed, and with rotten teeth. He was four years old. As he developed language over time, he was able to tell us just some of the heinous things he had been subjected to and witnessed over time. We called these in to End Harm. They advised us to please calling these things in as they had so many open complaints about him that they really did not need anymore. He had a very tough life.

Once he came to us though, we provided him with the most stable, loving home that he had ever been in. We loved him through his trauma and got him hooked into needed services. He was our first placement. We assumed the SW would assist us getting him services. It became apparent that she was going to do nothing, except accuse us of stealing other people's children and mention that we are not the same race as [RCW 13.] so thus we would not understand his needs. We went to the pediatrician. We got referrals to Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, and Counseling. We also flexed our lifestyle to stay at home with him until we could get him into therapeutic day cares. We knew we could not just put him in a mediocre daycare. He has such significant attachment and abandonment issues. We were able to get him into [RCW 13.50.100] and [RCW 13.50.100]. He did very well there. We were able to get him involved in all his therapies.

Fast forwarding, [RCW 13.] was being forced to go to visitation with [RCW 13.] to see [RCW 13.50.] father (not [RCW 13.50.] father). This person, according to [RCW 13.50.] subjected him to significant trauma. There was no need for [RCW 13.] to be at these visitations. He was diagnosed with [RCW 70.02.02] and post-visitation, he had severe triggers, significant nightmares and behaviors. I could set a watch by the behaviors exhibited post-visit. We voiced our concerns about this. Instead of listening to us and [RCW 13.50.] counselor, the SW said that we are not supporting the department. So, she would just move the child. Anytime we voiced concerns, she threatened us.

This SW was later fired/left the department. Desiree Rollins became in charge of the case. One day when the children were returned from a visit, the visitation supervisor advised us that they were moving the baby tomorrow. We were appalled. [RCW 13.] was parentified when he came into care. He showed us how to prop a bottle to feed [RCW 13.] because he thought that would be helpful. He knew how to care for [RCW 13.] He would fall into those patterns when we got all the kids together. However, being able to be a child with his little brother was very therapeutic for him. We knew a move would be very traumatic for him.

We knew that department policy required FTDMs and transition plans. We knew none of those things had occurred here. Rollins was not responsive; she did not respond to emails, phone calls, etc. She was not receptive to emails regarding [RCW 13.50.] needs. Finally, after emails to her, we get an email saying that she should have told us. Baby is moving tomorrow. We were naturally upset. I got on the phone and email and went up the line, ultimately getting Rollins in trouble. She allowed us to keep the baby until Monday. She held a perfunctory FTDM on Monday, but ordered us to bring all baby's things to the FTDM. The other foster parents were not as active in getting Rollins in trouble. They moved [RCW 13.] on that day (Friday). We thought the discrepancy in treatment was odd.

At the FTDM Rollins would not acknowledge our presence. Dismissed our concerns, and we cold, rude, icy. She clearly did not appreciate that we had advocated for our children's needs. They did not even transition the kids. There was no need for an emergent move. [RCW 13.] regressed substantially post-move. [RCW 13.50.] at that point was potty trained, working on night time potty training, and had language abilities. He had significant nightmares, needed diapers again, and things were very rough for him. It was apparent Rollins did not consider [RCW 13.50.] needs at all.

We did coordinate visits with the paternal grandparents. But at one point they cut us off from visits because they claimed, that we spoiled [RCW 13.50.] That [RCW 13.] missed us too much post-visits and was very upset. Thus, they did not want any of us over there. They refused to allow us to take the kiddos anywhere else or have visitation anywhere else. They also would not allow us to hold [RCW 13.] too much or bounce him, because that was spoiling him. This impacted [RCW 13.50.] When they allowed us to restart visits, they would have the father present at visits which impacted [RCW 13.50.] The SW (Erin Yanus) did step in to prevent this. But the paternal grandparents did not listen. The counselor at this point advised it may not be in [RCW 13.50.] best interest to see any of them due to his trauma. But then the children were returned home to father.

We attended every court hearing. [RCW 13.] was always treated as an afterthought because birth mom was not showing up. She has not seen [RCW 13.] since he entered care. The other children were ultimately returned home to father. [RCW 13.50.] case has just tracked along with the other children's.

Then September 26, 2016, we kept [RCW 13.50.100] home from school for the first time ever. He had been a little sick that weekend. We had taken him to the [RCW 13.50.100] Fair and for a walk on that Sunday to pick apples. Then Monday came, and he was sick. He developed a huge rash on his face. We were naturally concerned. We rushed him to the doctor. The doctor just advised that kids sometimes get rashes at the end of sickness. She gave him medications in the office and sent us home with prescriptions. It was past [RCW 13.50.1] bedtime at that time. He was overtired and had not eaten dinner. We got him a Wendy's kids meal and ran to the pharmacy to fill his prescriptions. The female pharmacy talked to him. She asked him if he was sure he would not swallow the drinkable kids stuff. (He really won't! We have tried everything! We have tried putting it in things... he always detects it!) He promised her that he absolutely will not take the oral stuff. She educated me on how to cut the tablets in half for him.

We got him home. Quick bath, and creams on his rash all over his face, head, ear. Bedtime ritual (scripture, prayers, bedtime story books, cuddles, Mama/Papa holds his hand till he falls asleep, sometimes songs.) and bed. It was late.

The next morning, I went off to work. [RCW 13.50.1] always made me promise to kiss him goodbye. Sometimes he would even get up and give me hug and kisses before I left. Then he would lock the door and skedaddle back to bed. He was too tired for that this morning- Sept 27th, 2016. I gave him kisses and left. He was so tired. The rash was still prominently on his face/head/ear. We did not think about sending a note or calling the school. Still new to this parenting thing. I wish I had taken photos and sent them with the email to the SW regarding this event. But, I can not go back in time.

An allegation was made by the school... not by the doctor who is a mandatory reporter, not the pharmacist who has obligations to call in child abuse, not by anyone until some random person at school saw his face and assumed the worst. [RCW 13.50.1] was picked up that day.

Ultimately the allegation was determined unfounded. We were investigated thoroughly nothing came of it. Our license was fully reinstated.

Since that time, we have been offered a five year old boy for an adoptive home, a 14 day old baby, and been called multiple times by placement to take other children. It is apparent that we are a viable home.

However, since leaving our home, [RCW 13.50.1] has been moved upwards of 4 times. He has been on the placement list numerous times. We have asked and begged for [RCW 13.50.1] to be returned to us. However, Desiree Rollins is being vindictive, punitive, and retaliatory. She was the supervisor of the SW that threatened to move [RCW 13.50.1] initially if we made too many waves and made her job difficult. We actually got her in trouble. And she is now taking this opportunity to exact revenge, but at the expense of a child. A sweet loving little boy! The SW/Supervisor told us that while the investigation was still pending that if it did not matter the outcome, they will not be placing him back with us. I asked the DLR investigator if she had EVER heard of a situation like this. She advised that she had not heard of another time that a SW did this. The referrer in the police report lied: she said I did not tell her about the incident. I have a documented email. Then she resorted to name-calling, describing me as an "over-sharerer." I am protecting our child.

We have documented evidence that CA has not followed protocol or procedure. It is procedure to place a child back into a known foster home. We still have our license. If CA thought we were not safe for children, we would not have gotten our license back. We have been offered other children, even a 5 year old boy! They never provided an ISSP ever at any time. Baby and [RCW 13.50.1] came back into care. We were known, beloved, family-figures to them. They did not call us for placement. They cannot even argue that it was because of the allegation (which has been the party line when broached, even though it was determined unfounded) because there were no allegations at all with those two.

[RCW 13.50.1] is drifting and is being lost in the cracks. We asked for CASA/GAL to be assigned almost from day one. CA has never appointed him a CASA. He needs someone who will actually advocate for his needs and his rights. It is apparent that CA will not do so. This is absolutely outrageous that his child suffers while the SW/Supervisors act in a selfish, retaliatory, vindictive manner. We were [RCW 13.50.1] voice that got his needs addressed.

We love him more than is even adequately able to be described. We have been fighting to get him back. Despite our open beds and open license, placement was advised by the SW/SW supervisor that she was not allowed to place [RCW 13.50.1] with us. Due to the personal vendetta the department has against us, they refuse to act in [RCW 13.50.1] best interest.

Please assign investigate the department; call them to ask for their acts. They will not respond to us!

We have tried to address this up the chain of command. We started with the SW/Supervisor who have never responded. We addressed this with Cleveland King. He protected his people who are acting in retaliatory manner. We have attempted to address this with Bolesha Johnson and Yen Lawlor, Deputy Regional Administrators, but they will not respond to phone calls, emails, letters, etc. We were told we have to go through them before going up to Natalie Green. However the department is being very obstructionist about being responsive.

We have consulted with an attorney and are considering filing a MEPA/IEPA race claim against the department for their retaliatory actions based on race. We are also considering filing a Public Records Act Claim as they will not comply with the PRA. We are also considering an outright lawsuit. However, they are very well-represented, and it is hard to intervene as a foster parent into a dependency case. We have no rights as foster parents. This is despicable.

We have many letters from <sup>RCW 13.50.1</sup> counselor, family, etc., that are supportive of reunifying this family.

Please review the 2 court reports below to see a little into our family, <sup>RCW 13.50.1</sup> growth and development, and how <sup>RCW 13.50.1</sup> being with us is in his best interest. Please take action and open an investigation into CA's lack of compliance with their own policies and protocols.

Kind regards,

**RCW 42.56.250(4)**

"If you can change the life of one person, you have the potential to change the world."

"Fiat Justitia, Ruat Coelum" Loosely translated: "Let Justice be done, though the heavens may fall."



## Caregiver's Report to the Court

Child's Name: **RCW 13.50.100**

Legal Case Number:

Hearing Date: **04/14/2016**

County with Legal Jurisdiction: **King**

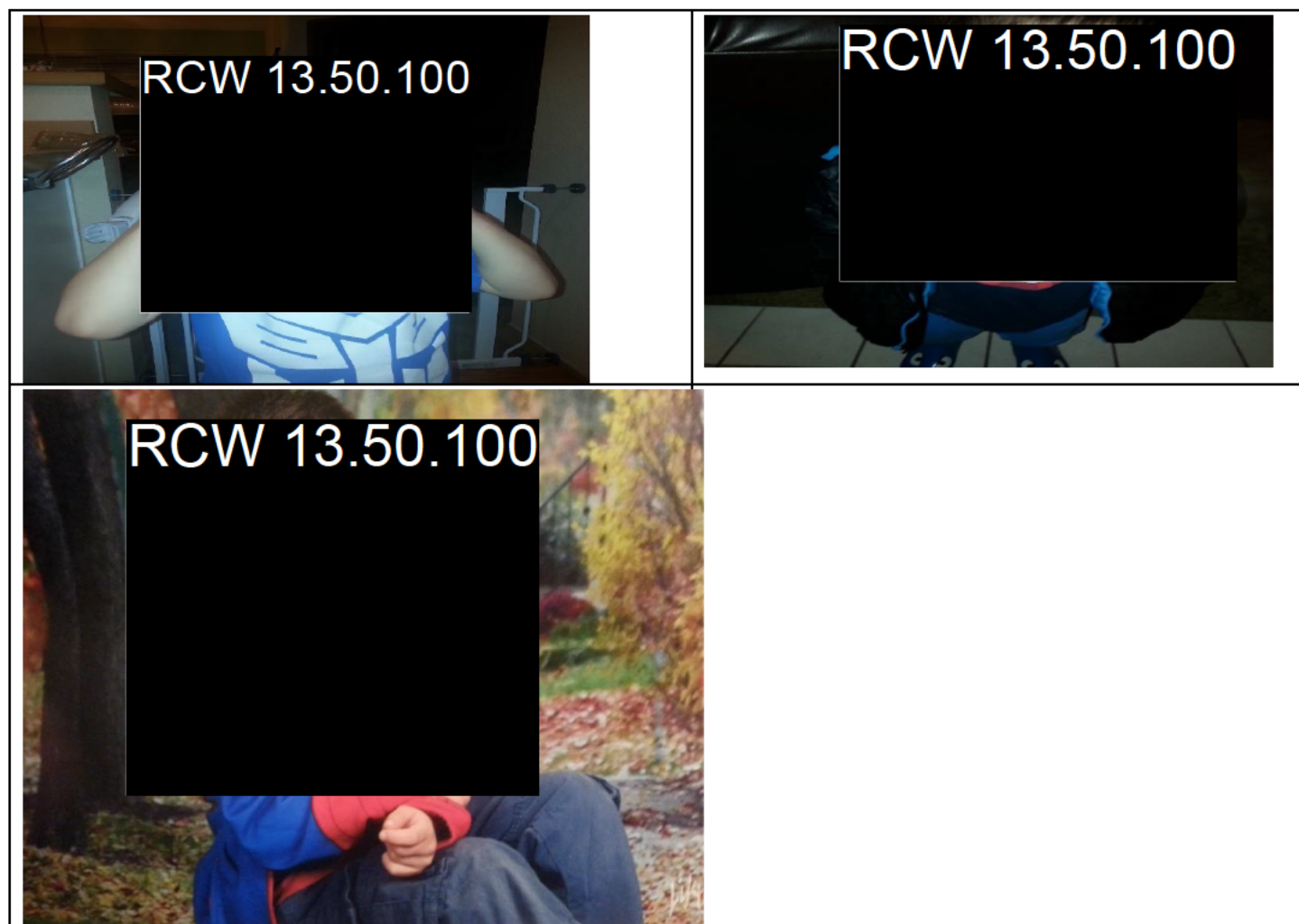
Caregiver Name/Person providing information: **Foster Mom; Foster Dad will be present for the hearing on 4/14/16**

Child's Assigned Social Worker: **Desiree Rollins**

**Please return Caregiver Report Form (via email, US Postal Service or in person) to the child's assigned social worker and/or guardian ad litem.**

### TOPICS:

1. Child's strengths, hobbies, gifts, talents, participation in extra-curricular activities/events:



**RCW 13.50.100** sings now! That may not mean anything to someone who has not been with him constantly, but the amazing journey of this sweet little boy is culminated by singing. When **RCW 13.50.100** came to us, he was quiet, afraid, fearful, anxious, on high alert and constantly being triggered (fight, flight or freeze) by his surroundings, singing was not part of his life. **RCW 13.50.100** was silent. He was watchful, he was wary. His silence was interrupted by

**CAREGIVER REPORT TO THE COURT  
DSHS 15-313 (REV. 10/2011)**

Investigate West / Abramo, Allegra  
201805-PRR-261 / Appeal  
DCYF - 002552

screaming tantrums and nonsensical words. language alluded him. Sleep and nighttime had its own set of concerns as sleep was punctuated and staccatoed by the screams of his nightly nightmares. But, RCW 13.50.100 sings now!

“Mama, those are my ears! Mama take a picture of me and my ears,” that is what RCW 13.50.100 told me which prompted me to take that photo of his cucumber “ears;” well that, and he is so adorable! RCW 13.50.100 is an adorable, fun, silly little guy. He loves to help with chores. He especially loves to help put away dishes and cook. He has 2 aprons; 1 for cooking with Mama and the other for bbqing and grilling with Papa. He loves his aprons. He especially loves baking cookies and being involved in the kitchen. He has a sweet tooth; if there is anything sweet in the house, he will find it!

The transition from fearful boy to fun loving little guy took time. The sweet, caring little boy was there, but we had to ensure that he knew he was safe and protected before he began to let us see his sweet loving side. We rightfully had to earn his trust.

et us tell you a little bit about our lovely boy. He is an adventurous eater. ven my hot pho is fair game for this little guy. He likes all types of food, especially veggies. He initially came to us hoarding food. He would wake in the middle of the night and take/eat food. He would eat until his tummy hurt (he still does; we are working with him on this.) arly on with us, we made Cr me Brule. We placed it in the fridge to cool with plans to eat it later. My husband was out, and I was in the back bedroom. I heard a shuffling noise and the pitter patter of little feet back to RCW 13.50.100 bedroom; I looked around and did not think much of it at the time. A bit later, I pulled out the Cr me Brule; there was a little handful of it gone with fingerprints. Being a new mom, I assumed it was my husband; he quickly advised that it was not him, and at that point we both clearly reali ed what had occurred. We started laughing uncontrollably. We still giggle about the “Crème Brule” incident!

Normally parents are not excited about a picky eater, but we rejoiced when he started getting picky about food because it told us that he is no longer worried about having enough nor is he worried about where the next meal is coming from. RCW 13.50.100 disclosed that “Mommy was mean” and would not share the food that they had to eat but would eat in front of him.

Our little guy is a fashionista! He loves clothes and dressing himself. He has an impeccable sense of style. He may occasionally change his clothes multiple times a day, much to our chagrin. He also loves to help Mama pick out her clothes, jewelry, and shoes for the day. He loves to style her and help her shop as well. He will always tell you what he thinks of an outfit.

He has a big heart and is very empathetic towards others (this was not always the case though. This has been a learned behavior over time.) He is very protective of “his people.” He loves “big” without abandon. RCW 13.50.100 came to us with very limited language, but one phrase he mastered quickly was “I love you big.”

He is very athletic. We go to the park almost every day to let him run, climb, and play. He quickly masters physical activities and climbs as high as he can go. He scares us at times with his physical abilities to climb higher and higher on the playground equipment, but he is quick and has sure footing, and we are always close by to ensure he is safe. He loves the outdoors. He would prefer to be outdoors over almost anywhere! He is a fast runner. He will definitely be a force to be reckoned with as he gets older.

We have him registered for gymnastics starting end of April, which RCW 13.50.100 is very excited about. He is also going to start swimming lessons. We have begun to teach him, ourselves, how to swim, and he has taken to it like a fish.



RCW 13.50.100 is very bright. He figures things out and is especially good at manipulating and tinkering with objects. He has a very curious mind and is always thinking about things and processing things. He figured out our very complicated baby gate, that some adults cannot figure out, in less than a day. He is very mechanical. He likes to build things and process things. But above all else; RCW 13.50.100 sings now!

## 2. Child's social interaction with caregiver family, peers and siblings:



Our family consists of Mama, Papa, RCW 13.50.100 and baby (RCW 13.50.100 until baby was placed with his paternal grandparents. RCW 13.50.100 immediately bonded with Mama. He was much more afraid and wary of any men. He does not do well with men in general, but he absolutely loves his Papa now. It took time to develop that trust.

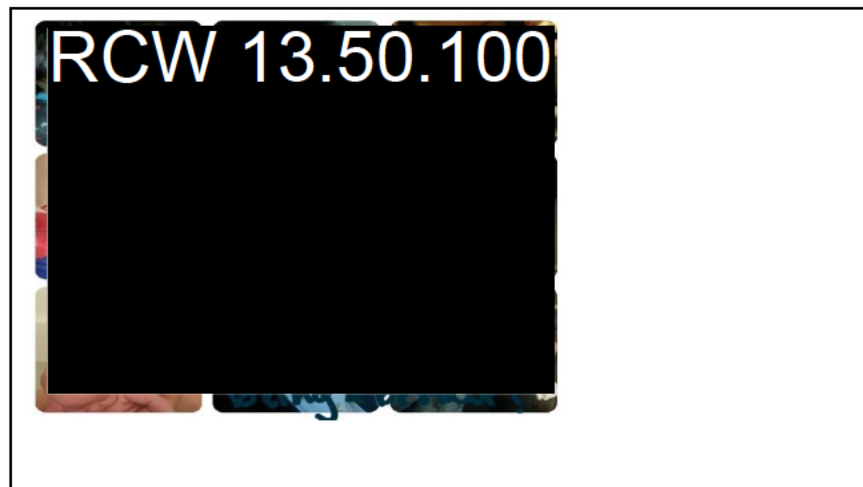
We had to teach RCW 13.50.100 that we would not hurt him and that he was safe. Even so he expects physical punishment; at times, he will direct us to spank him, and when we refuse (as we always do), he will RCW 13.50.100. We have been working with his counselor to assist us in handling these behaviors.

His bedtime ritual culminates with reading books with Papa. He loves reading books with Papa and playing (tickle fights, chasing/running from Papa monster, pretending to be a bear and chasing Papa, etc.) with Papa. One of the worst punishments for RCW 13.50.100 is taking away his privilege to have Papa read books to him.

RCW 13.50.100 is parentified and takes on the caregiver role with younger children. He appeared to have been the primary caregiver to his sister; he is invested in her life and her well-being. He asks about her and brother multiple times daily. When he is with her, he acts as her caregiver and attempts to modify her behaviors. He is so sweet and loving to her. He tends to take a caretaking role with children younger than him. He does not seem to know how interact with children his own age.

He seems to be a lot more quiet around people he does not know, but he can warm up quickly. He prefers to play with adults over children his own age. He loves our extended family: randma, randpa, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins. He is spoiled and loved by all of them.

3. Child's school progress and adjustment:



RCW 13.50.100 came to us: quiet, scared, manipulative, limited-in-language, not potty-trained, hoarding food, shy, cautious, and terrified of being abandoned. Initially he was scared of everything; the only thing that gave him comfort was his brother. He was especially scared of men.

He had constant tantrums, and he was being triggered by every day events. RCW 13.50.100

He did not know how to interact with other children his own age. It takes him time, even now, to understand how to play with children his own age.

Abandonment is huge challenge for our little guy. He fears not being retrieved and being permanently abandoned. One time, we were visiting some friends, and I realized I needed to retrieve something out of the car. I left him momentarily to retrieve it. When I retrieved he was screaming uncontrollably with huge tears running down his cheeks. "Mama left me! Mama left me!" It broke my heart. This, unfortunately was not an isolated incident. To combat this, we plan with our little guy. We start the day before and explain what will occur and when. We have a firm structure and plan for every day. Every day, multiple times a day, we reassure him that we will pick him up and be there for him.

Bedtime was a significant challenge as bedtime was/is a triggering event for him. He would scream for hours. We had to rock him to sleep. Even when sleep came, which initially, it did not come easy. He had constant nightmares. One night, I counted 7 nightmares in one night. He had deep circles under his eyes and would be scared to go to bed. He is scared of monsters and bad guys. We created a monster spray that he keeps in his room to vanquish the monsters. We developed a set schedule of bedtime; his favorite part is "books." Every evening he gets to choose a couple of books that Papa will read to him. Slowly over time, we transitioned to just simply holding his hand as he drifted off to sleep. And, just very recently, we transitioned him into, tucking him in, good nights hugs and kisses, and just a bit of time cuddling. Then Mama promises to check on him in 5 minutes; then we leave the room and check on him every 5 minutes till he falls asleep. This occasionally works, but it still is a transition that we are hoping will stick. He still wakes up almost daily due to nightmares.

He is accustomed to level of chaos that is abnormal in our home. He attempts to try to recreate that chaos by trying to pit us against each other. He is very good at manipulating us, but he finding less and less need to use those survival tactics. He understands that lying will not be tolerated. He understands 1-2-3 Magic (our parenting technique that his counselor advised us to us as a parenting tool) and understands actions have consequences.

He is a different child from the one that was originally placed with us, who was on constant high alert. He is doing very well. He attends RCW 13.50.100, a therapeutic learning center. He is doing well there. We initially had him at RCW 13.50.100. It was rough. He had/has severe separation anxiety. Every time we left the room, he would cry, scream, tantrum as he thought we were abandoning him. RCW 13.50.100 had a very tough time with him as he would scream almost the entire time that he was there. It was really hard on him and us. He is doing better at transitions, but he does struggle with change.

Structure helps him. We explain what is going to happen and prepare RCW 13.50.100 for all the upcoming events. We engage in therapeutic behavior modification (e.g., 1-2-3 magic, time outs and time ins) as directed by his counselor. RCW 13.50.100 trusts us and knows that we will come back for him. We still have to reassure him that we will return constantly, but it is much better than it was initially. He no longer food hoards to the extent he did initially. We still worry about overeating as he will eat until he cannot eat anymore.

He is now potty trained, although when his brother was moved without notice to us, he regressed substantially. We are now almost back to being fully potty training.

He talks a lot more now; his vocabulary is blossoming. He loves books and reading. Some kids may sleep with stuffed animals, RCW 13.50.100 sleeps with books. He talks a bit more. We practice with him. We work on counting, letters, colors. We have him repeat our sentence structure. We have him watch educational programs like "Daniel Tiger."

The tantrums are lessening as the triggers are learned and avoided. When visitation was ongoing, the tantrums, nightmares, and triggers were constant. Now that no visitation is occurring at all, the behaviors are less. He knows he is safe and trusts us to keep him safe and protected. We talk about how he is safe on a daily basis.

4. Child's physical health (state results of medical and dental appointments):

RCW 70.02.020  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Physically, RCW 13.50.100 is doing great. He is growing and getting bigger. He has grown quite a bit and is about to size up into the next size. His feet have grown through 3 different shoe sizes. He often will complain that his “feet hurt.” We discussed this with his pediatrician; she believes that it is the growing pains.

He came to us with a pretty nasty cough that has resurfaced a little bit every time he gets a cold.

He attends his pediatrician regularly, and she is very happy with his growth development since being placed into our home.

5. Child’s emotional health and well-being ( counselor or therapist appointment schedule):

When RCW 13.50.100 came to us, he had outbursts, tantrums, nightmares, and a multitude of other challenges. We needed help. We got a referral from his pediatrician for a counselors and therapists.

RCW 13.50.100 sees the following counselors/therapists every week:

RCW 70.02.020

We completed the Child Find val through the RCW 13.50.1 School. He was RCW 13.50.100

6. Child’s adjustment to caregiver family and caregiver family expectations:

He is excelling. He knows the house rules and helps us enforce the rules and reminds us when we forget the rules. He knows we do not wear shoes in the house. He knows to clear his plate after mealtime. He knows to put his toys away after he has finished playing. When we have friends over, he directs our friends to follow the rules. He loves the structure. He understands the process.

He enjoys the family events that we do together. He is thriving. He is trusting. He is loving. RCW 13.50.100 sings now. He loves music. He loves family dance parties. He loves cuddles and snuggles. He loves without abandon. He is no longer on high alert, and enjoys being a carefree boy.

He is very excited for it to get warm enough to start camping and hiking. Every time he sees our tent he exclaims, “Mama, what’s that?” To which we respond, “ You know what that is!” RCW 13.50.100 then giggles, “Tent.”

7. Child's visits with parent(s) and sibling(s):

RCW 13.50.100 loves his siblings. He misses them immensely. They bring him a measure of comfort and peace that as much as we love him and would move heaven and earth for him, we cannot give him that peace. He talks daily of brother and sister. He prays for them multiple times a day. If we forget to pray for them, he will prompt us to remind us to pray for "brother and sissy."

RCW 13.50.100 has not seen his mother since he entered care. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 He also mentions that mommy "broke his birthday." (He is very excited about his birthday coming up in July. He would like (depending on the day) an lmo cake, a monster cake, or a chocolate cake with two cars on it.) RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100. He mentions on a daily basis that his mother and step-father figure hurt him.

He also talks about "RCW 13.50.100" we believe this is his mother's brother "RCW 13.50.100" who hurt him.

When RCW 13.50.100 was told that he was going to visit Mommy, he became both very excited and very agitated, angry and upset. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 However, as visitation has never occurred (as mother no-showed), these behaviors have lessened and disappeared.

RCW 13.50.100 was having sibling visits with "Sissy" at the same time that RCW 13.50.100 was having visits with "Baby" and "Sissy." RCW 13.50.100 behaviors were drastically different after visitation. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 even if we had not been told that RCW 13.50.100 had had visitation with "Daddy," from his behaviors, it was always apparent. Slowly after a visit was conducted, the behaviors would lessen, but then as soon as the next visit occurred, all the same behaviors would be exhibited.

8. Your view on the needs of the child:

He needs a CASA/ A .

He needs more time with his siblings. We would like him to be allowed to see his siblings at least once a week. We have been accommodating that schedule and have been making the drive, but the grandparents feel that once a week is too often. They are not allowing RCW 13.50.100 to see his siblings every week. Due to the grandparents reluctance to allow visits, RCW 13.50.100 has not seen his siblings in two weeks.

He needs to continue the therapies and treatments that we are currently engaged in.

He needs time to heal and grow.

He needs constant companionship. He hates being alone. He needs adults to be engaged with him and with his play.

Nightmares, potty-training issues, tantrums, behavioral issues tend to be connected with triggers/memories of his trauma. We have noticed that when RCW 13.50.100 was visiting with the boys, RCW 13.50.100 would be triggered a lot more often.

RCW 13.50.100 even if I had forgotten that a specific day was a visitation day, I could tell by how RCW 13.50.100 was acting when I got home from work. RCW 13.50.100 He was not my happy, sweet little boy. The same thing occurs to a lesser extent when he sees RCW 13.50.100 grandparents (who have his siblings).

9. Your thoughts on how these needs can be addressed:

Time, therapy, and love.

We are constantly reading articles and books on the “traumatized child.” It is amazing to implement what we’ve read and learned. These articles also give us a level of understanding as to why RCW 13.50.100 behaves in a certain way.

He is always on high alert. His fight, flight, or freeze is a constant in his life. He asks so many repetitive questions because when he is in that state he cannot comprehend the minutia. He has incessant chatter at home. He constantly needs to be reassured that we will return for him. “Mama you get me? Papa get me? I come home on Turtle car?” (The turtle car transports him to/from RCW 13.50.100.)

He can be very quiet around new faces. He is scared and nervous. One day my sister came over. This was when baby was still in the NICU, and we were going to visit. We put his car seat in her car because it was roomier. RCW 13.50.100 got so scared. “Mama I don’t wanna go. No! Don’t make me go!!” He thought we were sending him away. That fear of abandonment is a very real, constant fear that we need to manage and address. We do this through structure. Structure and schedules are very important to maintaining his stability and emotional well-being.

He needs finality and permanency.

10. Your thoughts on Department’s case plan:

I do not know what the Department’s case plan is, but at this point in the plan, I assume the plan is reunification as that is always the initial goal.

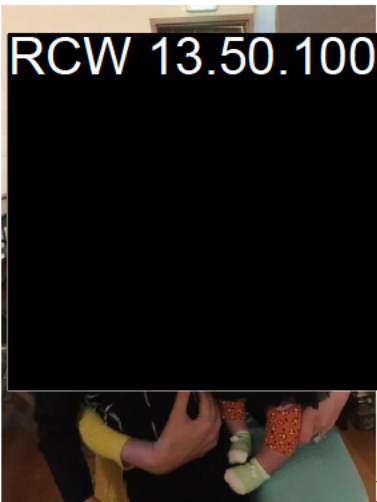
We want what is in the best interest of the child.

(Selfishly, we’d love to keep him and adopt him.) He is a joy. He is wonderful. He is a brilliant, smart, wonderful little boy.

He makes me artwork to take to work and put up for others to see. He is precious. He is precocious. He is silly. He is funny. He has a wicked sense of humor. He teases his Mama about having girlfriends! He says he has lots of girlfriends just to get a rise out of me.

11. Other child/case specific information you wish the court to consider:





We love him so much! Pictured with Foster mom and his cousin; Batman and Batgirl. **RCW 13.50.100** calls his niece “baby girl;” he loves her very much!

Caregiver's Signature: **RCW 42.56.250(4)**

Signature Date: **3/28/16**

Caregiver's Printed Name **RCW 42.56.250(4)** **Foster Mom)**

## Caregiver's Report to the Court

Child's Name: **RCW 13.50.100**

Legal Case Number:

Hearing Date: **09/01/2016**

County with Legal Jurisdiction: **King**

Caregiver Name/Person providing information: **Foster Mom**

Child's Assigned Social Worker: **Erin Yanus**

**Please return Caregiver Report Form (via email, US Postal Service or in person) to the child's assigned social worker and/or guardian ad litem.**

### TOPICS:

1. Child's strengths, hobbies, gifts, talents, participation in extra-curricular activities/events:



I wish you could meet the little boy in these photos. He is sweet; he is opinionated, and fun. He is pictured here at the Seattle Children's Museum, and baking cookies. He has 2 aprons, one to cook/bake with Mama and one to BBQ with Papa. If it was up to Bug (our sweet nickname for him), he would make sweet treats every day! **RCW 13.50.100** is an adorable, fun, silly little guy. He loves to help with chores. He especially loves to help put away dishes and cook. He especially loves baking cookies. He has a sweet tooth!

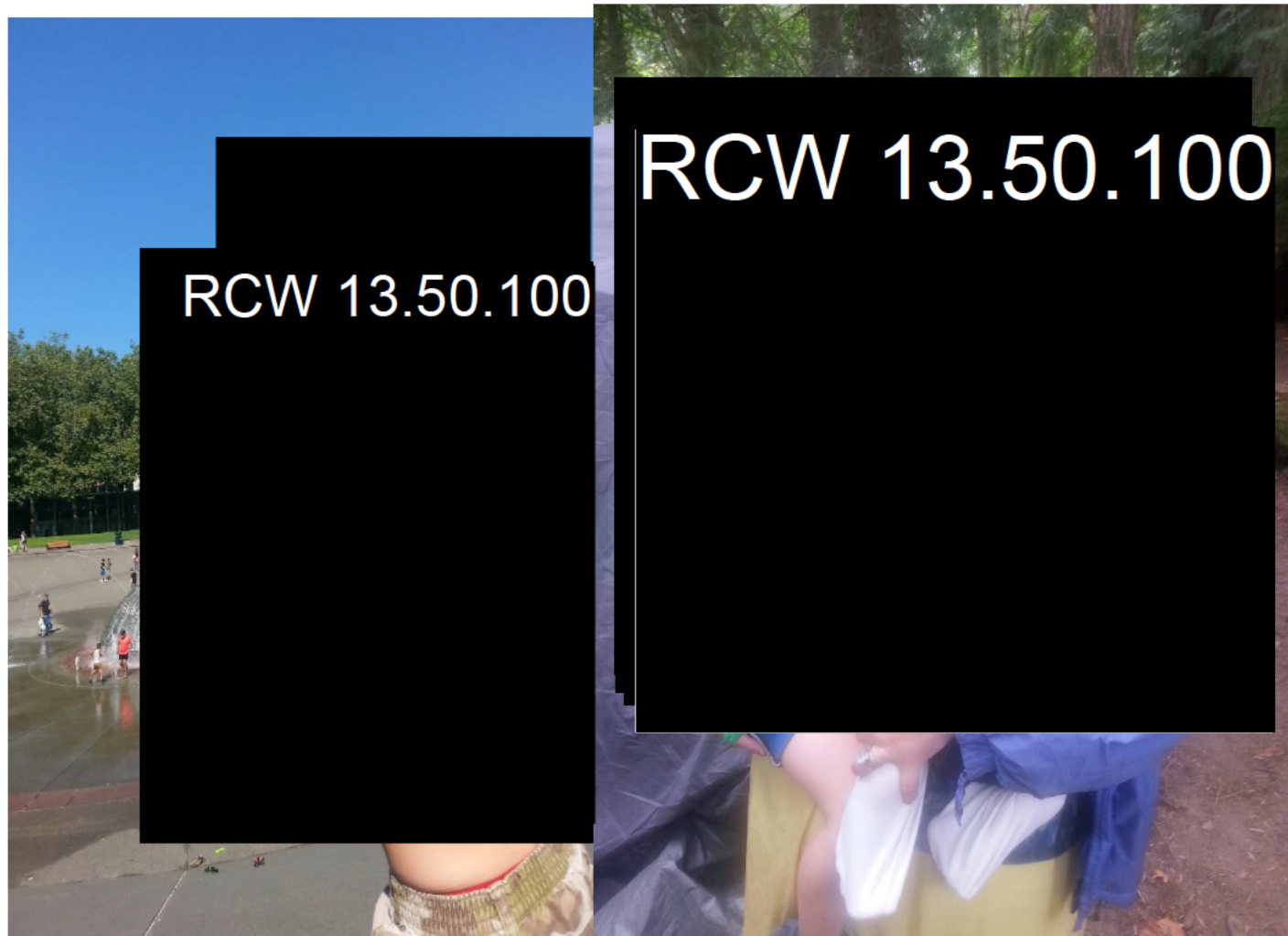
He is a very adventurous eater. Even my hot pho is fair game for this little guy. He likes all types of food. He loves Chinese food, Mediterranean food, and is willing to try anything, especially if it is on Mama's plate. He initially came to us hoarding food. Normally parents are not excited about a picky eater, but we rejoiced when he started getting picky about food because it told us that he is not worried about having enough and worrying about where the next meal is coming from.

Lately, Little Bug has been developing his sense of humor. He is very silly and likes to tease. Now, he will also attempt to say something funny, and then follow it up with, "Mama/Papa that is a joke (giggle, giggle)." It makes us laugh every time!

He has become more and more athletic. It took him some time to learn how to play, but now he loves going to the park (which is almost a daily occurrence- rain or shine). He can actually do the monkey bars ALL by

himself! It took him awhile to figure out how bike pedals work, but he can now pedal around on his bike that we have for him, and we are working on his balance with a balance bike. He loves running, and is super fast. He is pictured below flexing his muscles for us! ☺ He is such a ham! He loves looking at pictures of himself and loves being in pictures.

He loves camping. He loves being outdoors. He has the impeccable ability to get very filthy very quickly. He loves dirt and mud and playing in the water! He loves swimming in the rivers, creeks, lakes, ocean. Any body of water, he is set! We are on a waiting list for him to attend swimming through his OT and speech therapy clinic. He attended gymnastics and loved it! We plan to reenroll this fall after school starts. He also expressed keen interest in dance. We plan to enroll him in Dance as well. The boy has moves!



RCW 13.50.100 has a big heart and is very empathetic towards others (this was not always the case though. This has been a learned behavior over time.) He is very protective of “his people.” He loves “big” without abandon.

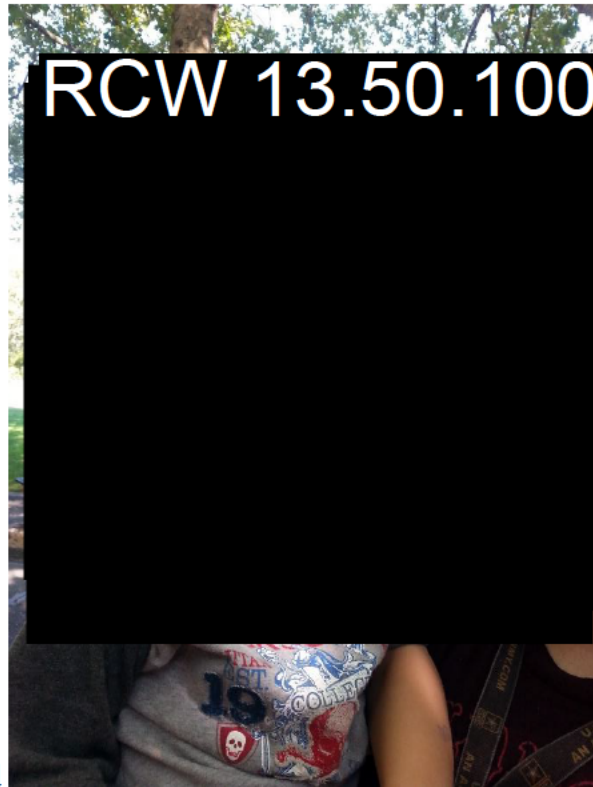
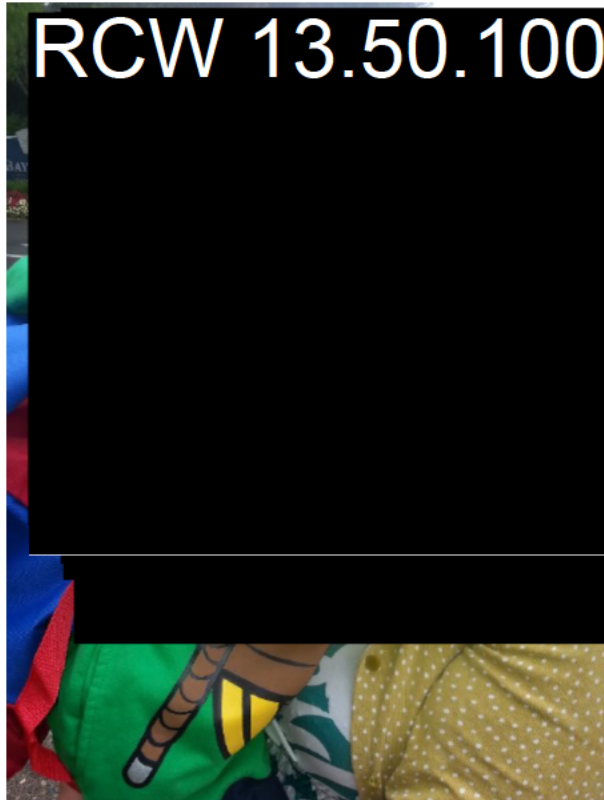
RCW 13.50.100 came to us with very limited language, but one phrase he mastered quickly was “I love you big.”

RCW 13.50.100 has completed 1 course of speech therapy. With the therapy with the reading to him every day and talking with him, his language has grown exponentially. He has his own thoughts, feelings, and impression, and now he can actually communicate those to us! I love being able to have a conversation with him. He is so thoughtful, and comes up with the wackiest stuff.

RCW 13.50.100 is very bright. He figures things out and is especially good at manipulating objects and tinkering with them. He has a very curious mind and is always thinking about things and processing things. He figured out our very complicated baby gate, that some adults cannot figure out, in less than a day. He is very mechanical. He likes to build things and process things.

RCW 13.50.100 is starting Kindergarten on 9/7. He is so excited, but also nervous and anxious. He picked out a Minion Backpack and a Spiderman Backpack. For his 5<sup>th</sup> birthday (which was RCW 13.50.100 we had a huge water themed birthday party, he had a great time. He received as gifts: a Batman coat and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Coat. He is so excited to wear them. He has an obsession with TMNT and owns several of the figurines as well. His Papa exposed him to the wonder of the Turtles, and RCW 13.50.100 loves them!

2. Child's social interaction with caregiver family, peers and siblings:



and

Our family consists of Mama, Papa, RCW 13.50.100 and baby (another foster baby); We also consider baby RCW 13.50.100 (RCW 13.50.100 brother) and RCW 13.50.100 (RCW 13.50.100 sister) as part of our family. We love them so much and miss them. RCW 13.50.100 immediately bonded with Mama. He was much more afraid and wary of any men. He does not do well with men in general. He absolutely loves his Papa now, but it took time to develop that trust. We had to teach RCW 13.50.100 that we would not hurt him and that he was safe. He loves reading books with Papa and playing with Papa.

He is parentified. He seemed to be the primary caregiver to his sister. He tends to take a caretaking role and interacts with children younger than him easily in that caretaker role. He does not seem to know how interact with children his own age. He seems to be a lot more quiet around people he does not know, but he can warm up quickly. He prefers to play with adults over children his own age. He loves playing with and engaging with all the foster babies that we've cared for. He does have a sense of loss when they leave us. He becomes very attached to them. We talk about how this is for baby's best interest when they have to leave us. When this does occur though; it does reignite RCW 13.50.100 own fears of leaving. He will come to us and explain that he does not want to leave. Through his behaviors we understand that he is processing the loss.



He loves our extended family: Grandma, Grandpa, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins. He is spoiled and loved by all of them. He loves his Auntie (calls her [RCW 13.50.100]) and his Grandpa ([RCW 13.50.100]). He came up with the names, but we all absolutely adore them! He also loves his cousins, one he calls "Baby Girl" and the other one "cousin". He ensures that we call [RCW 13.50.100] at least every other day and demands that we see him often. He actually grabs Mama's phone and calls [RCW 13.50.100] at least every other day. He loves seeing them and playing with them. It is abundantly clear that he loves them so much! He is pictured with [RCW 13.50.100] and "Cousin."



### 3. Child's school progress and adjustment:

[RCW 13.50.100] came to us with very limited language, not potty-trained, with food hoarding, shy, cautious, terrified, and scared. Initially he was scared of everything; the only thing that gave him comfort was his brother. He was especially scared of men. He had constant tantrums. Angry outbursts, was destructive, hurt himself, hurt his brother, and we needed to help him so that he would not hurt himself. He had constant nightmares. One night, I counted 7 nightmares in one night. He had deep circles under his eyes and would be scared to go to bed. He is scared of monsters and bad guys. He is terrified of being abandoned. He has triggers that we are still beginning to learn and understand.

He is now doing very well. We got him placed in [RCW 13.50.100], a therapeutic learning center. He is doing well there. We initially had him at [RCW 13.50.100]. It was rough. He has severe separation anxiety. Every time we left the room, he would freak out as he thought we were abandoning him. [RCW 13.50.100] had a very tough time with him as he would scream almost the entire time that he was there. It was really hard on him and us. He is doing better at transitions, but he does struggle with change.

Structure helps him. We explain what is going to happen and prepare [RCW 13.50.100] for all the upcoming events. We engage in therapeutic behavior modification. [RCW 13.50.100] trusts us and knows that we will come back for him. We still have to reassure him that we will return constantly, but it is much better than it was initially. He no longer food hoards to the extent he did initially. We still worry about overeating as he will eat until he cannot eat anymore.

He is now potty trained, although when his brother was moved without notice to us, he regressed substantially. We are now back to full potty training, and he is almost completely potty trained at night as well. When he does have a triggering traumatic event, he does regress. But we are working through all of those.

He talks a lot now; his vocabulary is blossoming. He loves books. Some kids may sleep with stuffed animals, [RCW 13.50.100] sleeps with books. He is talking a lot more. He needs assistance with pronouncing words sometimes. You can actually hold a conversation and talk to [RCW 13.50.100] now. He can express himself and express his needs. He is sweet; he is cute; he is funny! He is adorable! We love him!

The tantrums are lessening as the triggers are learned and avoided. When visitation was ongoing, the tantrums, nightmares, and triggers were constant. Now that no visitation is occurring at all, the behaviors are less. He knows he is safe and trusts us to keep him safe and protected. We talk about how he is safe on a daily basis. He is triggered by going over the grandparents house where the babies live. On 2 occasions [RCW 13.50.100] was present for those visits. On the first visit, he told [RCW 13.50.100] that he was going to get him back and have him live with him. We were surprised to hear this. [RCW 13.50.100] was upset to hear this. He regressed substantially and had numerous nightmares that night. He advised us multiple times, tearfully, that he did not want to leave us. He wants to live here.

The SW was advised; she told [RCW 13.50.100] and the grandparents that [RCW 13.50.100] was not to be present. Despite this, on [RCW 13.50.100] next visit, [RCW 13.50.100] was present. He told [RCW 13.50.100] he wanted him to meet his new mommy ([RCW 13.50.100] new girlfriend). [RCW 13.50.100] came home from that visit and clung to Mama crying, sobbing that he did not want to leave. After these 2 very traumatic visits and in discussion with [RCW 13.50.100] therapist, she advised that the behaviors and triggers were caused by being over in the grandparents home. [RCW 13.50.100] lived there himself for 1.5 years and has stories, some positive, many negative, about his time living there.

#### 4. Child's physical health (state results of medical and dental appointments):

RCW 70.02.020

RCW 70.02.020



RCW 70.02.020



Physically, RCW 13.50.100 is doing great. He is growing and getting bigger. He came to us in 3T clothes. He is now about ready to size up into 5 clothes. He has grown about a foot, and is doing wonderfully physically.

He came to us with a pretty nasty cough that has resurfaced a little bit every time he gets a cold.

He has attended his pediatrician regularly, and she is very happy with his growth development since being placed into our home.

5. Child's emotional health and well-being ( counselor or therapist appointment schedule):

RCW 13.50.100 had outbursts, tantrums, nightmares, and a multitude of other challenges. We needed help. We got a referral from the pediatrician for a counselor.

RCW 13.50.100 sees the following counselors/therapists every week:

RCW 70.02.020

RCW 13.50.100 has disclosed

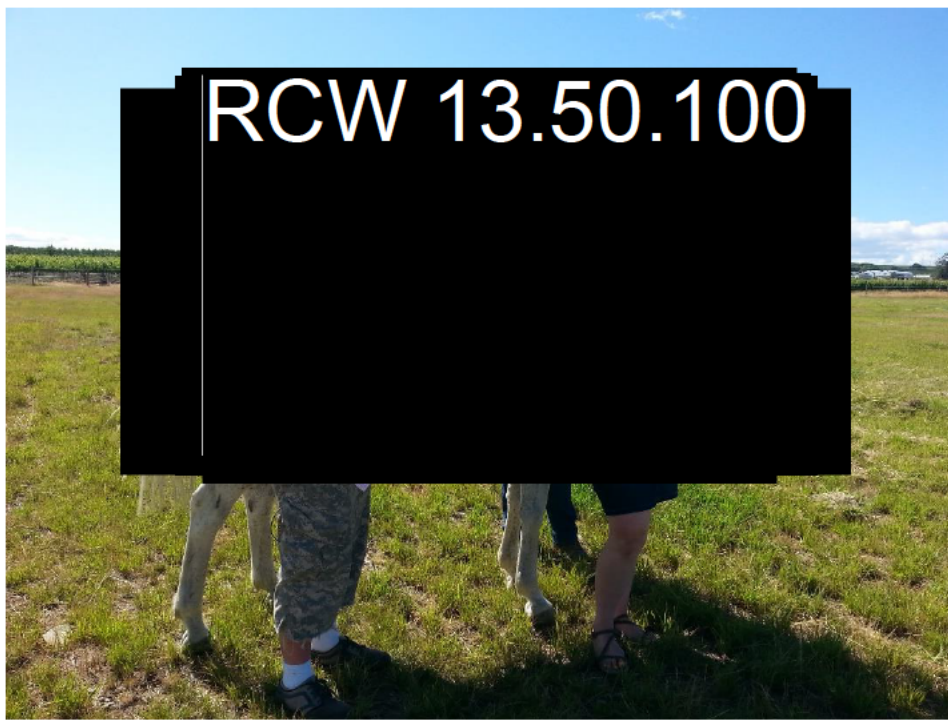
RCW 13.50.100 recently finished his Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy courses. He is now on another waiting list for these to start up again. These are 1x per week visits.

We completed the Child Find Eval through the RCW 13.50.1 School. He was RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100. He qualified RCW 13.50.100 t. He will be starting kindergarten. He will be a very young kindergartener, but we decided if he needs to be held back, we can make that determination later. He is so smart and catching up so quickly! We think with our help he will be caught up to his peers in no time at all. He will be attending the RCW 13.50.100 which is a more therapeutic environment for children RCW 13.50.100.

6. Child's adjustment to caregiver family and caregiver family expectations:

He is excelling. He knows the house rules and helps us enforce the rules and reminds us when we forget the rules. He loves the structure. He understands the process. He enjoys the family events that we do together. He is thriving. He is trusting. He is loving.



He loves it here. He wants to stay. He encourages us to follow the “Home Rules” if we forget. He will point out negative behaviors that he sees others doing and make observations that those behaviors are not appropriate. He understands our expectations. He actually without prompting apologizes when he does something that is not appropriate. He is self-sufficient, but enjoys having help and individualized one-on-one attention.

He loves horses “woosies” as he calls them. He loves riding them and is so comfortable around him. He is lucky that we have family willing to indulge him (as it will otherwise get very expensive). Immediately after this photo he placed the hat on the horse’s head (after removing it from mine!)

7. Child’s visits with parent(s) and sibling(s):

RCW 13.50.100 loves his siblings. He misses them immensely. They bring him a measure of comfort and peace that as much as we love him and would move heaven and earth for him, we cannot do for him. He talks daily of brother and sister. He prays for them multiple times a day. If we forget to pray for them, he will prompt us to remind us to pray for “brother and sissy.”

RCW 13.50.100 has not seen his mother since he entered care. He mentions on a daily basis that “mommy hurt me; mommy slapped me [he will demonstrate how]; mommy hurt \_\_\_[insert body part].” He does the same thing with Daddy. Daddy is RCW 13.50.100 his step-father figure. “Daddy hurt my leg.” “Daddy and mommy hurt my foot, etc...” He also mentions that mommy “broke his birthday.” He has disclosed very serious physical abuse RCW 13.50.100. He is scared of monsters and bad guys. He has qualified RCW 13.50.100 and Mommy as “bad guys.”

He has also disclosed RCW 13.50.100 from Mommy’s brother RCW 13.50.100” as RCW 13.50.100 calls him.

When RCW 13.50.100 sees RCW 13.50.100 RCW 13.50.100 parents, he has had consist nightmares, night terrors, and more tantrums and behaviors. It has gotten to the point that his counselor believes it is no longer in RCW 13.50.100 best interest to have visitation at the grandparent’s house.

8. Your view on the needs of the child:

He needs a CASA/GAL.

He needs more time with his siblings.

But the time with his siblings needs to be elsewhere. He needs a trigger free environment without [RCW 13.50.100] or grandparents present to allow him to focus on his siblings.

He needs to continue the therapies and treatments that we are currently engaged in.

He needs time to heal and grow.

He needs constant companionship. He hates being alone. He needs adults to be engaged with him and with his play.

Nightmares, potty-training issues, tantrums, behavioral issues tend to be connected with triggers/memories of his trauma. We have noticed that when [RCW 13.50.100] was visiting with the boys, [RCW 13.50.100] would be triggered a lot more often. Even if I had forgotten that a specific day was a visitation day, I could tell by how [RCW 13.50.100] was acting when I got home from work. He was more angry, withdrawn, easily upset, his mood was off. He was not my happy, sweet little boy. The same thing occurs when he sees [RCW 13.50.100] grandparents. This is still very much on-going to the point that [RCW 13.50.100] therapist believes it is no longer in [RCW 13.50.100] best interest to be over at the grandparents home.

(Grandparents have only allowed visitation maybe once, occasionally twice a month, but only at their home on Sundays at 2pm. This is super inconvenient, but they refuse to allow visitation any other day or at any other time. They will not allow us to take the children anywhere, and refuse to accommodate any other schedule. However, they also have repeatedly had [RCW 13.50.100] over at the home despite being told he was not to be present.)

9. Your thoughts on how these needs can be addressed:

Time, therapy, and love.

We are constantly reading articles and books on the traumatized child. It is amazing to implement what we've read and learned. These articles also give us a level of understanding as to why [RCW 13.50.100] behaves in a certain way.

He is always on high alert. His fight, flight, or freeze is a constant in his life. He asks so many repetitive questions because when he is in that state he cannot comprehend the minutia. He has incessant chatter at home. He constantly needs to be reassured that we will return for him. "Mama you get me? Papa get me? I come home on Turtle car?" (The turtle car transports him to/from [RCW 13.50.100].)

He can be very quiet around new faces. He is scared and nervous. When [RCW 13.50.100] says things like you are going to live with me; it is very alarming to [RCW 13.50.100] He craves stability and permanency.

He needs finality and permanency.

10. Your thoughts on Department's case plan:

I do not know what the Department's case plan is; but we want what is in the best interest of the child. (Selfishly, we'd love to keep him and adopt him.) He is a joy. He is wonderful. He is a brilliant, smart, wonderful little boy.

He makes me artwork to take to work and put up for others to see. He is precious. He is precocious. He is silly. He is funny. He has a wicked sense of humor. He teases his Mama about having girlfriends! He says he has lots of girlfriends just to get a rise out of me.

11. Other child/case specific information you wish the court to consider:

We are always willing to take [RCW 13.50.100] and [RCW 13.50.100] to our home to facilitate visitation, or for longer visits. Whatever is in their best interest is what we want. We love [RCW 13.50.100] and his siblings. They are very sweet children.

[RCW 13.50.100] needs finality. He needs to be able to know that he has a forever family and a forever home. The current situation is unstable and does not promote mental health wellbeing. We want to be that forever family for [RCW 13.50.100]

Caregiver's Signature: [RCW 42.56.250(4)]

Signature Date: **8/24/16**

Caregiver's Printed Name: [RCW 42.56.250(4)]

From: RCW 42.56.250(4) RCW 42.56.250(4)@gmail.com>

To: [Keiser, Karen](#)

Date: 2/3/2017 8:08:24 PM

Subject: Constituent Issue-Children's Administration/Foster Parents and Retaliation at the Expense of a Little Boy

Attachments: Court Report (1).pdf  
Court Report 2.pdf

Hello,

Let me introduce to the wonderful family and child you are going to hear about:



The adorable little 5 year old boy pictured above is drifting without assistance. He has been in care for about a year and a half now. His needs are not being addressed by his SWs. In fact his case procedural history is absolutely outrageous. He needs someone outside of DSHS-CA to stand up for his rights and his needs. We thought you would be the right person for the job, as it is abundantly clear from your website that you care about your constituents and you care about foster children's rights!

Child's name: RCW 13.50.100

Social Worker: Erin Yanus

Social Worker Supervisor: Desiree Rollins

Office Administrator: Cleveland King (Kent Office)

A little history on RCW 13.50.100 case:

He was placed in our home in October 2015 with his little brother RCW 13.50.100. His little sister RCW 13.50.100 was placed with another foster family. We coordinated visitation and became good friends with this other foster family. RCW 13.50.100 was able to see all his siblings regularly.

RCW 13.50.100 came to our home filthy, only about 10-20 words, not potty trained, very developmentally delayed, and with rotten teeth. He was four years old. As he developed language over time, he was able to tell us just some of the heinous things he had been subjected to and witnessed over time. We called these in to End Harm. They advised us to please calling these things in as they had so many open complaints about him that they really did not need anymore. He had a very tough life.

Once he came to us though, we provided him with the most stable, loving home that he had ever been in. We loved him through his trauma and got him hooked into needed services. He was our first placement. We assumed the SW would

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assist us getting him services. It became apparent that she was going to do nothing, except accuse us of stealing other people's children and mention that we are not the same race as [RCW 13.50.100] so thus we would not understand his needs. We went to the pediatrician. We got referrals to Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, and Counseling. We also flexed our lifestyle to stay at home with him until we could get him into therapeutic day cares. We knew we could not just put him in a mediocre daycare. He has such significant attachment and abandonment issues. We were able to get him into [RCW 13.50.100] and [RCW 13.50.100]. He did very well there. We were able to get him involved in all his therapies.

Fast forwarding, [RCW 13.50.100] was being forced to go to visitation with [RCW 13.50.100] to see [RCW 13.50.100] father (not [RCW 13.50.100] father). This person, according to [RCW 13.50.100], subjected him to significant trauma. There was no need for [RCW 13.50.100] to be at these visitations. He was diagnosed with [RCW 70.02.02] and post-visitation, he had severe triggers, significant nightmares and behaviors. I could set a watch by the behaviors exhibited post-visit. We voiced our concerns about this. Instead of listening to us and [RCW 13.50.100] counselor, the SW said that we are not supporting the department. So, she would just move the child. Anytime we voiced concerns, she threatened us.

This SW was later fired/left the department. Desiree Rollins became in charge of the case. One day when the children were returned from a visit, the visitation supervisor advised us that they were moving the baby tomorrow. We were appalled. [RCW 13.50.100] was parentified when he came into care. He showed us how to prop a bottle to feed [RCW 13.50.100] because he thought that would be helpful. He knew how to care for [RCW 13.50.100]. He would fall into those patterns when we got all the kids together. However, being able to be a child with his little brother was very therapeutic for him. We knew a move would be very traumatic for him.

We knew that department policy required FTDMs and transition plans. We knew none of those things had occurred here. Rollins was not responsive; she did not respond to emails, phone calls, etc. She was not receptive to emails regarding [RCW 13.50.100] needs. Finally, after emails to her, we get an email saying that she should have told us. Baby is moving tomorrow. We were naturally upset. I got on the phone and email and went up the line, ultimately getting Rollins in trouble. She allowed us to keep the baby until Monday. She held a perfunctory FTDM on Monday, but ordered us to bring all baby's things to the FTDM. The other foster parents were not as active in getting Rollins in trouble. They moved [RCW 13.50.100] on that day (Friday). We thought the discrepancy in treatment was odd.

At the FTDM Rollins would not acknowledge our presence. Dismissed our concerns, and we cold, rude, icy. She clearly did not appreciate that we had advocated for our children's needs. They did not even transition the kids. There was no need for an emergent move. [RCW 13.50.100] regressed substantially post-move. [RCW 13.50.100] at that point was potty trained, working on night time potty training, and had language abilities. He had significant nightmares, needed diapers again, and things were very rough for him. It was apparent Rollins did not consider [RCW 13.50.100] needs at all.

We did coordinate visits with the paternal grandparents. But at one point they cut us off from visits because they claimed, that we spoiled [RCW 13.50.100]. That [RCW 13.50.100] missed us too much post-visits and was very upset. Thus, they did not want any of us over there. They refused to allow us to take the kiddos anywhere else or have visitation anywhere else. They also would not allow us to hold [RCW 13.50.100] too much or bounce him, because that was spoiling him. This impacted [RCW 13.50.100]. When they allowed us to restart visits, they would have the father present at visits which impacted [RCW 13.50.100]. The SW (Erin Yanus) did step in to prevent this. But the paternal grandparents did not listen. The counselor at this point advised it may not be in [RCW 13.50.100] best interest to see any of them due to his trauma. But then the children were returned home to father.

We attended every court hearing. [RCW 13.50.100] was always treated as an afterthought because birth mom was not showing up. She has not seen [RCW 13.50.100] since he entered care. The other children were ultimately returned home to father. [RCW 13.50.100] case has just tracked along with the other children's.

Then September 26, 2016, we kept [RCW 13.50.100] home from school for the first time ever. He had been a little sick that weekend. We had taken him to the [RCW 13.50.100] Fair and for a walk on that Sunday to pick apples. Then Monday came, and he was sick. He developed a huge rash on his face. We were naturally concerned. We rushed him to the doctor. The doctor just advised that kids sometimes get rashes at the end of sickness. She gave him medications in the office and sent us home with prescriptions. It was past [RCW 13.50.100] bedtime at that time. He was overtired and had not eaten dinner. We got him a Wendy's kids meal and ran to the pharmacy to fill his prescriptions. The female pharmacy talked to him. She asked him if he was sure he would not swallow the drinkable kids stuff. (He really won't! We have tried everything! We have tried putting it in things... he always detects it!) He promised her that he absolutely will not take the oral stuff. She educated me on how to cut the tablets in half for him.

We got him home. Quick bath, and creams on his rash all over his face, head, ear. Bedtime ritual (scripture, prayers,



bedtime story books, cuddles, Mama/Papa holds his hand till he falls asleep, sometimes songs.) and bed. It was late.

The next morning, I went off to work. [RCW 13.01] always made me promise to kiss him goodbye. Sometimes he would even get up and give me hug and kisses before I left. Then he would lock the door and skedaddle back to bed. He was too tired for that this morning- Sept 27th, 2016. I gave him kisses and left. He was so tired. The rash was still prominently on his face/head/ear. We did not think about sending a note or calling the school. Still new to this parenting thing. I wish I had taken photos and sent them with the email to the SW regarding this event. But, I can not go back in time.

An allegation was made by the school... not by the doctor who is a mandatory reporter, not the pharmacist who has obligations to call in child abuse, not by anyone until some random person at school saw his face and assumed the worst. [RCW 13.01] was picked up that day.

Ultimately the allegation was determined unfounded. We were investigated thoroughly nothing came of it. Our licensed was fully reinstated.

Since that time, we have been offered a five year old boy for an adoptive home, a 14 day old baby, and been called multiple times by placement to take other children. It is apparent that we are a viable home.

However, since leaving our home, [RCW 13.01] has been moved upwards of 4 times. He has been on the placement list numerous times. We have asked and begged for [RCW 13.01] to be returned to us. However, Desiree Rollins is being vindictive, punitive, and retaliatory. She was the supervisor of the SW that threatened to move [RCW 13.01] initially if we made too many waves and made her job difficult. We actually got her in trouble. And she is now taking this opportunity to exact revenge, but at the expense of a child. A sweet loving little boy! The SW/Supervisor told us that while the investigation was still pending that if it did not matter the outcome, they will not be placing him back with us. I asked the DLR investigator if she had EVER heard of a situation like this. She advised that she had not heard of another time that a SW did this. The referrer in the police report lied: she said I did not tell her about the incident. I have a documented email. Then she resorted to name-calling, describing me as an "over-sharerer." I am protecting our child.

We have documented evidence that CA has not followed protocol or procedure. It is procedure to place a child back into a known foster home. We still have our license. If CA thought we were not safe for children, we would not have gotten our license back. We have been offered other children, even a 5 year old boy! They never provided an ISSP ever at any time. Baby and [RCW 13.01] came back into care. We were known, beloved, family-figures to them. They did not call us for placement. They cannot even argue that it was because of the allegation (which has been the party line when broached, even though it was determined unfounded) because there were no allegations at all with those two.

[RCW 13.01] is drifting and is being lost in the cracks. We asked for CASA/GAL to be assigned almost from day one. CA has never appointed him a CASA. He needs someone who will actually advocate for his needs and his rights. It is apparent that CA will not do so. This is absolutely outrageous that his child suffers while the SW/Supervisors act in a selfish, retaliatory, vindictive manner. We were [RCW 13.01] voice that got his needs addressed.

We love him more than is even adequately able to be described. We have been fighting to get him back. Despite our open beds and open license, placement was advised by the SW/SW supervisor that she was not allowed to place [RCW 13.01] with us. Due to the personal vendetta the department has against us, they refuse to act in [RCW 13.01] best interest. He is on the adoption list serve which means the department is looking for a permanent home for him. We are begging to be that permanent home!

Please assign investigate the department; call them to ask for their acts. They will not respond to us!

We have tried to address this up the chain of command. We started with the SW/Supervisor who have never responded. We addressed this with Cleveland King. He protected his people who are acting in retaliatory manner. We have attempted to address this with Bolesha Johnson and Yen Lawlor, Deputy Regional Administrators, but they will not respond to phone calls, emails, letters, etc. We were told we have to go through them before going up to Natalie Green. However the department is being very obstructionist about being responsive.

We have consulted with an attorney and are considering filing a MEPA/IEPA race claim against the department for their retaliatory actions based on race. We are also considering filing a Public Records Act Claim as they will not comply with the PRA. We are also considering an outright lawsuit. However, they are very well-represented, and it is hard to intervene as a foster parent into a dependency case. We have no rights as foster parents. This is despicable.

We have many letters from <sup>RCW 13.50.1</sup> counselor, family, etc., that are supportive of reunifying this family.

Please review the 2 court reports below to see a little into our family, <sup>RCW 13.50.1</sup> growth and development, and how <sup>RCW 13.50.1</sup> being with us is in his best interest. Please take action and open an investigation into CA's lack of compliance with their own policies and protocols.

Kind regards,

**RCW 42.56.250(4)**

"If you can change the life of one person, you have the potential to change the world."

"Fiat Justitia, Ruat Coelum" Loosely translated: "Let Justice be done, though the heavens may fall."

## Caregiver's Report to the Court

Child's Name **RCW 13.50.100**

Legal Case Number:

Hearing Date: **04/14/2016**

County with Legal Jurisdiction: **King**

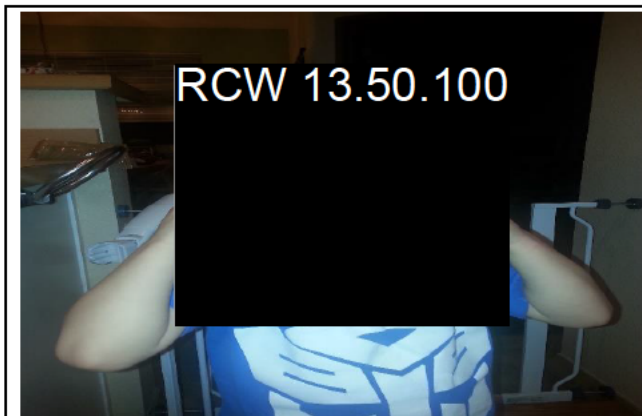
Caregiver Name/Person providing information: **Foster Mom; Foster Dad will be present for the hearing on 4/14/16**

Child's Assigned Social Worker: **Desiree Rollins**

**Please return Caregiver Report Form (via email, US Postal Service or in person) to the child's assigned social worker and/or guardian ad litem.**

### TOPICS:

1. Child's strengths, hobbies, gifts, talents, participation in extra-curricular activities/events:



**RCW 13.50.100** sings now! That may not mean anything to someone who has not been with him constantly, but the amazing journey of this sweet little boy is culminated by singing. When **RCW 13.50.100** came to us, he was quiet, afraid, fearful, anxious, on high alert and constantly being triggered (fight, flight or freeze) by his surroundings, singing was not part of his life. **RCW 13.50.100** was silent. He was watchful, he was wary. His silence was interrupted by

**CAREGIVER REPORT TO THE COURT  
DSHS 15-313 (REV. 10/2011)**

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screaming tantrums and nonsensical words. language alluded him. Sleep and nighttime had its own set of concerns as sleep was punctuated and staccatoed by the screams of his nightly nightmares. But, RCW 13.50.100 sings now!

“Mama, those are my ears! Mama take a picture of me and my ears,” that is what RCW 13.50.100 told me which prompted me to take that photo of his cucumber “ears;” well that, and he is so adorable! RCW 13.50.100 is an adorable, fun, silly little guy. He loves to help with chores. He especially loves to help put away dishes and cook. He has 2 aprons; 1 for cooking with Mama and the other for bbqing and grilling with Papa. He loves his aprons. He especially loves baking cookies and being involved in the kitchen. He has a sweet tooth; if there is anything sweet in the house, he will find it!

The transition from fearful boy to fun loving little guy took time. The sweet, caring little boy was there, but we had to ensure that he knew he was safe and protected before he began to let us see his sweet loving side. We rightfully had to earn his trust.

et us tell you a little bit about our lovely boy. He is an adventurous eater. ven my hot pho is fair game for this little guy. He likes all types of food, especially veggies. He initially came to us hoarding food. He would wake in the middle of the night and take/eat food. He would eat until his tummy hurt (he still does; we are working with him on this.) arly on with us, we made Cr me Brule. We placed it in the fridge to cool with plans to eat it later. My husband was out, and I was in the back bedroom. I heard a shuffling noise and the pitter patter of little feet back to RCW 13.50.100 bedroom; I looked around and did not think much of it at the time. A bit later, I pulled out the Cr me Brule; there was a little handful of it gone with fingerprints. Being a new mom, I assumed it was my husband; he quickly advised that it was not him, and at that point we both clearly reali ed what had occurred. We started laughing uncontrollably. We still giggle about the “Crème Brule” incident!

Normally parents are not excited about a picky eater, but we rejoiced when he started getting picky about food because it told us that he is no longer worried about having enough nor is he worried about where the next meal is coming from. RCW 13.50.100 disclosed that “Mommy was mean” and would not share the food that they had to eat but would eat in front of him.

Our little guy is a fashionista! He loves clothes and dressing himself. He has an impeccable sense of style. He may occasionally change his clothes multiple times a day, much to our chagrin. He also loves to help Mama pick out her clothes, jewelry, and shoes for the day. He loves to style her and help her shop as well. He will always tell you what he thinks of an outfit.

He has a big heart and is very empathetic towards others (this was not always the case though. This has been a learned behavior over time.) He is very protective of “his people.” He loves “big” without abandon. RCW 13.50.100 came to us with very limited language, but one phrase he mastered quickly was “I love you big.”

He is very athletic. We go to the park almost every day to let him run, climb, and play. He quickly masters physical activities and climbs as high as he can go. He scares us at times with his physical abilities to climb higher and higher on the playground equipment, but he is quick and has sure footing, and we are always close by to ensure he is safe. He loves the outdoors. He would prefer to be outdoors over almost anywhere! He is a fast runner. He will definitely be a force to be reckoned with as he gets older.

We have him registered for gymnastics starting end of April, which RCW 13.50.100 is very excited about. He is also going to start swimming lessons. We have begun to teach him, ourselves, how to swim, and he has taken to it like a fish.

RCW 13.50.100 is very bright. He figures things out and is especially good at manipulating and tinkering with objects. He has a very curious mind and is always thinking about things and processing things. He figured out our very complicated baby gate, that some adults cannot figure out, in less than a day. He is very mechanical. He likes to build things and process things. But above all else; RCW 13.50.100 sings now!

## 2. Child's social interaction with caregiver family, peers and siblings:



Our family consists of Mama, Papa, RCW 13.50.100 and baby (RCW 13.50.100 until baby was placed with his paternal grandparents. RCW 13.50.100 immediately bonded with Mama. He was much more afraid and wary of any men. He does not do well with men in general, but he absolutely loves his Papa now. It took time to develop that trust.

We had to teach RCW 13.50.100 that we would not hurt him and that he was safe. Even so he expects physical punishment; at times, he will direct us to spank him, and when we refuse (as we always do), he will RCW 13.50.100. We have been working with his counselor to assist us in handling these behaviors.

His bedtime ritual culminates with reading books with Papa. He loves reading books with Papa and playing (tickle fights, chasing/running from Papa monster, pretending to be a bear and chasing Papa, etc.) with Papa. One of the worst punishments for RCW 13.50.100 is taking away his privilege to have Papa read books to him.

RCW 13.50.100 is parentified and takes on the caregiver role with younger children. He appeared to have been the primary caregiver to his sister; he is invested in her life and her well-being. He asks about her and brother multiple times daily. When he is with her, he acts as her caregiver and attempts to modify her behaviors. He is so sweet and loving to her. He tends to take a caretaking role with children younger than him. He does not seem to know how interact with children his own age.



He seems to be a lot more quiet around people he does not know, but he can warm up quickly. He prefers to play with adults over children his own age. He loves our extended family: randma, randpa, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins. He is spoiled and loved by all of them.

### 3. Child's school progress and adjustment:



RCW 13.50.100 came to us: quiet, scared, manipulative, limited-in-language, not potty-trained, hoarding food, shy, cautious, and terrified of being abandoned. Initially he was scared of everything; the only thing that gave him comfort was his brother. He was especially scared of men.

He had constant tantrums, and he was being triggered by every day events. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 e did not know how to interact with other children his own age. It takes him time, even now, to understand how to play with children his own age.

Abandonment is huge challenge for our little guy. He fears not being retrieved and being permanently abandoned. One time, we were visiting some friends, and I realized I needed to retrieve something out of the car. I left him momentarily to retrieve it. When I retrieved he was screaming uncontrollably with huge tears running down his cheeks. "Mama left me! Mama left me!" It broke my heart. This, unfortunately was not an isolated incident. To combat this, we plan with our little guy. We start the day before and explain what will occur and when. We have a firm structure and plan for every day. Every day, multiple times a day, we reassure him that we will pick him up and be there for him.

Bedtime was a significant challenge as bedtime was/is a triggering event for him. He would scream for hours. We had to rock him to sleep. Even when sleep came, which initially, it did not come easy. He had constant nightmares. One night, I counted 7 nightmares in one night. He had deep circles under his eyes and would be scared to go to bed. He is scared of monsters and bad guys. We created a monster spray that he keeps in his room to vanquish the monsters. We developed a set schedule of bedtime; his favorite part is "books." Every evening he gets to choose a couple of books that Papa will read to him. Slowly over time, we transitioned to just simply holding his hand as he drifted off to sleep. And, just very recently, we transitioned him into, tucking him in, good nights hugs and kisses, and just a bit of time cuddling. Then Mama promises to check on him in 5 minutes; then we leave the room and check on him every 5 minutes till he falls asleep. This occasionally works, but it still is a transition that we are hoping will stick. He still wakes up almost daily due to nightmares.



He is accustomed to level of chaos that is abnormal in our home. He attempts to try to recreate that chaos by trying to pit us against each other. He is very good at manipulating us, but he finding less and less need to use those survival tactics. He understands that lying will not be tolerated. He understands 1-2-3 Magic (our parenting technique that his counselor advised us to us as a parenting tool) and understands actions have consequences.

He is a different child from the one that was originally placed with us, who was on constant high alert. He is doing very well. He attends RCW 13.50.100, a therapeutic learning center. He is doing well there. We initially had him at RCW 13.50.100. It was rough. He had/has severe separation anxiety. Every time we left the room, he would cry, scream, tantrum as he thought we were abandoning him. RCW 13.50.100 had a very tough time with him as he would scream almost the entire time that he was there. It was really hard on him and us. He is doing better at transitions, but he does struggle with change.

Structure helps him. We explain what is going to happen and prepare RCW 13.50.100 for all the upcoming events. We engage in therapeutic behavior modification (e.g., 1-2-3 magic, time outs and time ins) as directed by his counselor. RCW 13.50.100 trusts us and knows that we will come back for him. We still have to reassure him that we will return constantly, but it is much better than it was initially. He no longer food hoards to the extent he did initially. We still worry about overeating as he will eat until he cannot eat anymore.

He is now potty trained, although when his brother was moved without notice to us, he regressed substantially. We are now almost back to being fully potty training.

He talks a lot more now; his vocabulary is blossoming. He loves books and reading. Some kids may sleep with stuffed animals, RCW 13.50.100 sleeps with books. He talks a bit more. We practice with him. We work on counting, letters, colors. We have him repeat our sentence structure. We have him watch educational programs like "Daniel Tiger."

The tantrums are lessening as the triggers are learned and avoided. When visitation was ongoing, the tantrums, nightmares, and triggers were constant. Now that no visitation is occurring at all, the behaviors are less. He knows he is safe and trusts us to keep him safe and protected. We talk about how he is safe on a daily basis.

4. Child's physical health (state results of medical and dental appointments):

RCW 70.02.020  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Physically, RCW 13.50.100 is doing great. He is growing and getting bigger. He has grown quite a bit and is about to size up into the next size. His feet have grown through 3 different shoe sizes. He often will complain that his “feet hurt.” We discussed this with his pediatrician; she believes that it is the growing pains.

He came to us with a pretty nasty cough that has resurfaced a little bit every time he gets a cold.

He attends his pediatrician regularly, and she is very happy with his growth development since being placed into our home.

5. Child’s emotional health and well-being ( counselor or therapist appointment schedule):

When RCW 13.50.100 came to us, he had outbursts, tantrums, nightmares, and a multitude of other challenges. We needed help. We got a referral from his pediatrician for a counselors and therapists.

RCW 13.50.100 sees the following counselors/therapists every week:

RCW 70.02.020

We completed the Child Find val through the RCW 13.50.1 School. He was RCW 13.50.100

6. Child’s adjustment to caregiver family and caregiver family expectations:

He is excelling. He knows the house rules and helps us enforce the rules and reminds us when we forget the rules. He knows we do not wear shoes in the house. He knows to clear his plate after mealtime. He knows to put his toys away after he has finished playing. When we have friends over, he directs our friends to follow the rules. He loves the structure. He understands the process.

He enjoys the family events that we do together. He is thriving. He is trusting. He is loving. RCW 13.50.100 sings now. He loves music. He loves family dance parties. He loves cuddles and snuggles. He loves without abandon. He is no longer on high alert, and enjoys being a carefree boy.

He is very excited for it to get warm enough to start camping and hiking. Every time he sees our tent he exclaims, “Mama, what’s that?” To which we respond, “ You know what that is!” RCW 13.50.100 then giggles, “Tent.”

7. Child's visits with parent(s) and sibling(s):

RCW 13.50.100 loves his siblings. He misses them immensely. They bring him a measure of comfort and peace that as much as we love him and would move heaven and earth for him, we cannot give him that peace. He talks daily of brother and sister. He prays for them multiple times a day. If we forget to pray for them, he will prompt us to remind us to pray for "brother and sissy."

RCW 13.50.100 has not seen his mother since he entered care. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 He also mentions that mommy "broke his birthday." (He is very excited about his birthday coming up in July. He would like (depending on the day) an lmo cake, a monster cake, or a chocolate cake with two cars on it.) RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100. He mentions on a daily basis that his mother and step-father figure hurt him.

He also talks about "RCW 13.50.100" we believe this is his mother's brother "RCW 13.50.100" who hurt him.

When RCW 13.50.100 was told that he was going to visit Mommy, he became both very excited and very agitated, angry and upset. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 However, as visitation has never occurred (as mother no-showed), these behaviors have lessened and disappeared.

RCW 13.50.100 was having sibling visits with "Sissy" at the same time that RCW 13.50.100 was having visits with "Baby" and "Sissy." RCW 13.50.100 behaviors were drastically different after visitation. RCW 13.50.100

RCW 13.50.100 even if we had not been told that RCW 13.50.100 had had visitation with "Daddy," from his behaviors, it was always apparent. Slowly after a visit was conducted, the behaviors would lessen, but then as soon as the next visit occurred, all the same behaviors would be exhibited.

8. Your view on the needs of the child:

He needs a CASA/ A .

He needs more time with his siblings. We would like him to be allowed to see his siblings at least once a week. We have been accommodating that schedule and have been making the drive, but the grandparents feel that once a week is too often. They are not allowing RCW 13.50.100 to see his siblings every week. Due to the grandparents reluctance to allow visits, RCW 13.50.100 has not seen his siblings in two weeks.

He needs to continue the therapies and treatments that we are currently engaged in.

He needs time to heal and grow.

He needs constant companionship. He hates being alone. He needs adults to be engaged with him and with his play.

Nightmares, potty-training issues, tantrums, behavioral issues tend to be connected with triggers/memories of his trauma. We have noticed that when RCW 13.50.100 was visiting with the boys, RCW 13.50.100 would be triggered a lot more often.

even if I had forgotten that a specific day was a visitation day, I could tell by how RCW 13.50.100 was acting when I got home from work. RCW 13.50.100. He was not my happy, sweet little boy. The same thing occurs to a lesser extent when he sees RCW 13.50.100 grandparents (who have his siblings).

9. Your thoughts on how these needs can be addressed:

Time, therapy, and love.

We are constantly reading articles and books on the “traumatized child.” It is amazing to implement what we’ve read and learned. These articles also give us a level of understanding as to why RCW 13.50.100 behaves in a certain way.

He is always on high alert. His fight, flight, or freeze is a constant in his life. He asks so many repetitive questions because when he is in that state he cannot comprehend the minutia. He has incessant chatter at home. He constantly needs to be reassured that we will return for him. “Mama you get me? Papa get me? I come home on Turtle car?” (The turtle car transports him to/from RCW 13.50.100.)

He can be very quiet around new faces. He is scared and nervous. One day my sister came over. This was when baby was still in the NICU, and we were going to visit. We put his car seat in her car because it was roomier. RCW 13.50.100 got so scared. “Mama I don’t wanna go. No! Don’t make me go!!” He thought we were sending him away. That fear of abandonment is a very real, constant fear that we need to manage and address. We do this through structure. Structure and schedules are very important to maintaining his stability and emotional well-being.

He needs finality and permanency.

10. Your thoughts on Department’s case plan:

I do not know what the Department’s case plan is, but at this point in the plan, I assume the plan is reunification as that is always the initial goal.

We want what is in the best interest of the child.

(Selfishly, we’d love to keep him and adopt him.) He is a joy. He is wonderful. He is a brilliant, smart, wonderful little boy.

He makes me artwork to take to work and put up for others to see. He is precious. He is precocious. He is silly. He is funny. He has a wicked sense of humor. He teases his Mama about having girlfriends! He says he has lots of girlfriends just to get a rise out of me.

11. Other child/case specific information you wish the court to consider:

RCW 13.50.100



We love him so much! Pictured with Foster mom and his cousin; Batman and Batgirl. RCW 13.50.100 calls his niece "baby girl;" he loves her very much!

RCW 42.56.250(4)

Caregiver's Signature: /

Signature Date: 3/28/16

Caregiver's Printed Name: RCW 42.56.250(4) Foster Mom)